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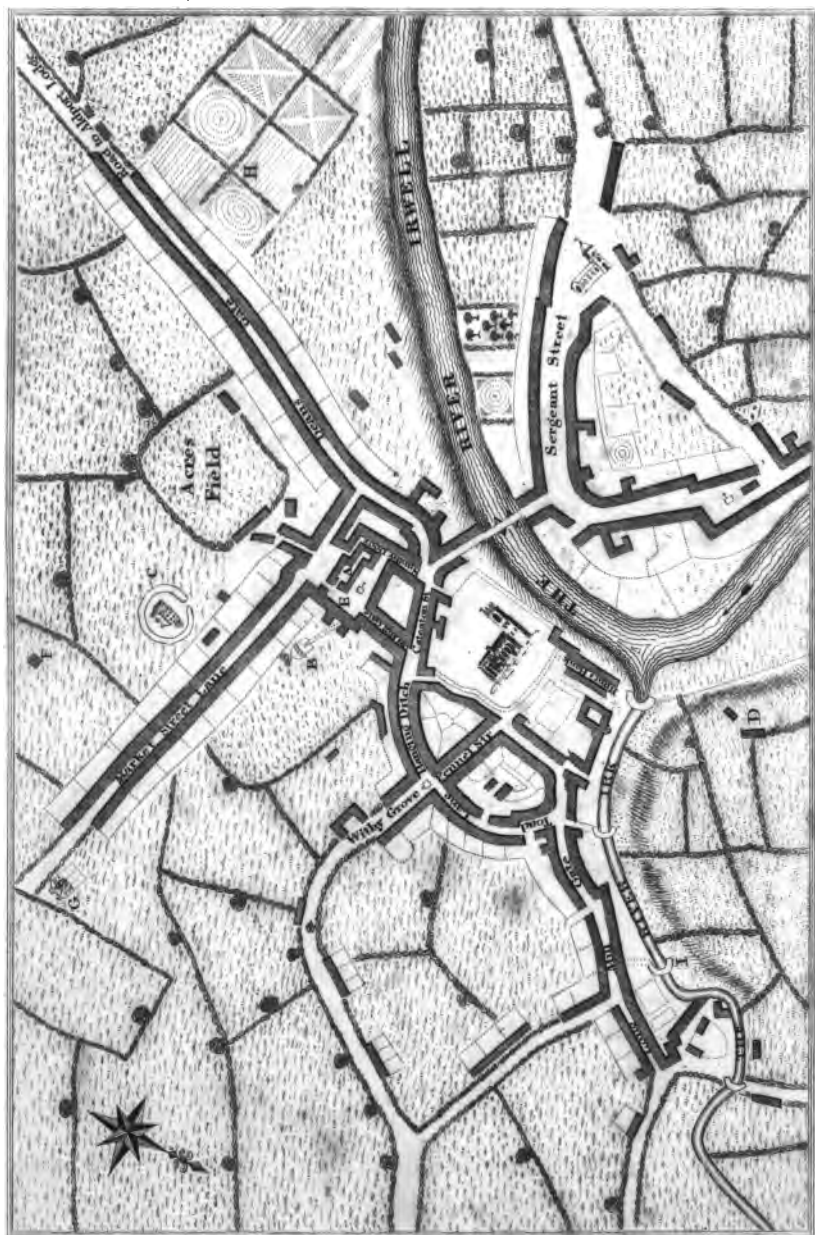
**(Class of 1887).**

**OF BOSTON**









- E *Meal House*
- F *Fountain*
- G *McLennan's*
- H *New Gardens*
- I *Tower Bridge*

# **A PLAN OF MANCHESTER & SALFORD, TAKEN ABOUT 1650.**

*Drawn from a Plan in the possession of Will<sup>m</sup> Yates Esq<sup>r</sup> by John Palmer Arch<sup>t</sup> 1822.*

- Reference**
- A *Severus House*
- B *Cock Pit*
- C *Radcliffe Hall*
- D *McKenzie House*

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THE

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**HISTORY**

OF THE

**SIEGE OF MANCHESTER**

BY THE

**King's Forces,**

UNDER THE COMMAND OF LORD STRANGE,

**1642.**

---

**BY JOHN PALMER, ARCHITECT.**

---

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

**THE COMPLAINT OF**

*Lieutenant Colonel John Rosworm,*

AGAINST THE INHABITANTS OF MANCHESTER, RELATIVE  
TO THAT EVENT.

---

*Dedicated by Permission to Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.*

---

"Unnatural war! When in the field,  
'The sons the blood of fathers spill'd;  
Fathers slew sons, brother kill'd brother,  
And neighbours butcher'd one another."

WARD, CANTO IV.

—♦—

MANCHESTER;

*Printed for the Author by John Leigh, Market-street;*

AND SOLD BY

LONGMAN & CO. LONDON; CLARKE, 14, MARKET-PLACE; ROBINSON AND ELLIS,  
ST. ANN'S-PLACE; THOMSON, AND FORD, MARKET-STREET; ROBINSON, 44,  
DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER; DOUGLAS, BLACKBURN; WHITTLE, PRESTON;  
JACKSON, AND BENTHAM, LANCASTER; SWINNERTON AND  
BAYLEY, MACCLESFIELD; KAYE AND SMITH, LIVERPOOL.

1822.



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✓  
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William Endicott, Jr.*

*Imperfect in title-page cut*

## PREFACE.

IN the following pages I have endeavoured to give a succinct and faithful account of the events, which immediately preceded and succeeded the siege of Manchester, as well as of the siege itself. And, although fanaticism and rebellion eventually waved their victorious banners over the grave of a murdered monarch, it will be found, that the inhabitants of this county, (not excepting the Catholics of it) were not wanting in duty and allegiance, when their services were found necessary to repress the designs of evil and turbulent men. Their blood was lavished, their treasures were exhausted, in defence of a good and royal master. I may possibly, by some, be accused of partiality ; though I am conscious, that I have endeavoured, throughout the whole narrative, to render a faithful account of the events, which occurred during that period. It is, indeed, true, that I have occasionally made reflec-

tions on the excesses committed by factious and fanatical bigots, who were ever preaching up loyalty to their prince, and zeal for religion; though their actions (which are the best interpreters of the mind) compel us to believe, that they had little regard for either. But I hope, that my indignation and abhorrence of their rebellion, rapacity, murder, and sequestrations, have been expressed in language, as mild as the subject would allow. If their activity and zeal had been displayed in a just cause; then, indeed, their fame and actions would have been handed down for the imitation of an admiring posterity; but candour bids us to acknowledge, that the contrary is the case: and I fervently hope, that neither this nation, nor this industrious town and neighbourhood, may ever again be visited by a similar affliction. Though a few of my Readers may have met with Rosworm's Complaint, yet, as it is very scarce, and tends to shew the duplicity and want of the common principles of honour and honesty in men, who have once turned their backs on their God and their King; and as it contains much information, relative to the local circumstances of this town and county; I have given it at length. To several of my friends I

wish thus publickly to return my grateful acknowledgments for their kindness, in affording me original documents, and other valuable information; and, though I have deemed it improper to particularize their names, I hope they will do me the justice to be assured, that I do not hold them less gratefully in my remembrance. Sensible of the imperfection of all human labours, I can assure the reader, that I submit this work to his perusal with no small degree of anxiety as to its reception. If any thing, which it contains, should tend to his information or amusement, his approbation will be all the reward I look for; if his more accurate information, or better judgment, should discover any faults, I hope he will not be too severe in his censures.



THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
SIEGE OF MANCHESTER.

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THE period that the following pages treat of, was one of peculiar difficulties to this nation in general, and to some local places in particular. Among the latter, Manchester bore an early portion in the unhappy contest between the unfortunate Charles the First and his ignominious Parliament; for it is recorded, that the first blood was shed *there*, in the civil commotions that disgraced the kingdom for so many years. There were seen, in those unnatural wars, father opposed to son, and brother to brother, and the dearest ties of consanguinity were severed asunder. The demon of destruction being let loose on the nation, carried havoc and desola-

tion, like a torrent, before it; the blood of her best patriots was every where lavished for her common defence; and her most sanguinary enemies never ceased, until they had revolutionized the state, and murdered their monarch. May God, of his grace and mercy, for ever preserve this kingdom from the recurrence of such a melancholy catastrophe !

Previous to the year 1640, fanaticism began to mingle itself with faction, and private interest with republican fury. "In Scotland," observes an elegant authoress,\* "the famous league and covenant was formed, which required an engagement upon oath to defend the Presbyterian worship against Popery, and to reject all innovations whatsoever. People of every rank, denomination, and condition, hastened to subscribe to this oath, and, moreover, bound themselves to support each other against every appearance of opposition. Charles had neither power to quell these daring measures, nor prudence to give up the design that occasioned them: he made, indeed, some slight concessions; but, these being abused, both parties prepared for war. The malcontents were headed by the Earl of Argyle: Leslie, an experienced soldier, commanded their forces. Charles equipped a fleet and levied a

\* Hist. of the United Kingdom, vol. 2. p. 26.

considerable army, which he himself joined at Berwick; but instead of acting with that vigour, which circumstances required, he attended to the slightest signs of an affected submission, and hastily came into terms with the rebels. The assembly and the parliament of Scotland were summoned to terminate the differences; but the avowed principles of the one, and the pretensions of the other, reduced his Majesty to the necessity of once more having recourse to arms. Unfortunately his finances were exhausted. An English parliament alone could supply him: after an interval of eleven years, he found himself obliged to call one in 1640."

In the mean while tonnage and poundage had been levied by royal authority; though in former reigns it had been levied without the consent of parliament, it seemed in him an unpardonable stretch of royal prerogative, and a source of justifiable murmur: compositions were likewise made with non-conformists, and the high commission court of the star chamber exercised its powers independently of any law, upon several bold innovators in liberty, who gloried in their sufferings, and in a great measure contributed to render his Majesty's government odious and contemptible.\* The

\* History of the United Kingdom, vol. 2. p. 25.



abolishing of these grievances was the pretence, under which anarchy was to be established; and from which all the evil consequences hereafter followed.

Early in February 1642, both Houses of Parliament sent forth an ordinance for ordering out the militia of the kingdom of England, and the dominion of Wales. To justify their proceedings, and to shew their anxiety for the welfare of the nation, (but it was, in fact, to cover their real designs) the ordinance proceeds to state, that by the "effect of the bloody councils of Papists, and other ill affected persons," they "had raised a rebellion in the kingdom of Ireland," and they could not but fear that they would "stir up the like rebellion and insurrection in England."\*

On the 12th of February the House of Commons nominated to his Majesty a list of persons, fit to be "entrusted with the militia of the kingdom, wherein they desired the concurrence of the House of Peers." In this list the Lord Wharton was nominated for Lancashire.—The monarch now either began to perceive through their real designs, or else he could not have confidence in the persons therein nominated; for on the 28th of February his Majesty

\* Rushworth's Collections, vol. 1. p. 521.

returned a spirited and peremptory answer, that he could not agree to their request.\*

The next step, which the Parliament took for securing their full and supreme authority, was to send forth another ordinance, dated the 5th of March, 1642, for appointing Lord Lieutenants of Counties, and ordaining that they should "severally and respectively have power to assemble, and call together, all and singular his Majesty's subjects within the several and respective counties and places,"† to train and exercise them for the wars, to array and arm them, and to muster them in such places as the said Lieutenants of the Counties should think proper. They next drew up and passed a Bill for settling the militia agreeable to their ordinance beforementioned; and sent the same to his Majesty, desiring his royal assent thereunto. The King, on the 28th of April following, sent a message to both Houses, stating, in strong terms, his reasons for refusing to pass the said Bill.

Affairs now began to assume a most serious and alarming aspect, and required more than human prudence in the royal mind, to endure repeated and insulting degradations. On the 5th of May, the Parliament had the audacity to put forth a printed

\* Rushworth's coll. vol. 2. p. 522.

† Ibid 526.

declaration against his Majesty's message concerning the militia, and their concluding sentence is this, that, "knowing no other way to encounter the imminent and approaching danger, but by putting the people into a fit posture of defence, they do resolve to put their said ordinance in present execution, and do require all persons in authority, by virtue of the said ordinance, forthwith to put the same in execution, and all others to obey it, according to the fundamental laws of the kingdom in such cases, as they tender the upholding of the true Protestant religion, the safety of his Majesty's person and his royal posterity, the peace of the kingdom, and the being of this commonwealth."\* If ever Charles conceived the idea of reigning without a Parliament, the Parliament certainly now began to shew an evident design of governing the nation without a King.

The Monarch for greater safety now retired to York with his two sons, and perceiving that the Parliament were bent on monopolizing all the legislative and executive power, he, with a dignity and spirit worthy of his royal character, though borne down by their wicked machinations, their ingratitude, and oppression, sent forth a proclama-

\* Rush. coll. vol. 1, p. 546.

tion, dated from that city, 27th of May, 1642, forbidding all his subjects belonging to the trained bands, or militia of the kingdom, to rise, march, muster, or exercise, by virtue of any order or ordinance of one or both Houses of Parliament, without consent or warrant from his Majesty, upon pain of punishment according to the laws.\*

At length arrived a great and eventful crisis, when the allegiance and fidelity of the subject were to be tried; not by boasting professions and extravagant oaths, but by actions and sufferings in the cause of duty and loyalty. The trained bands and militia were now ordered out, and placed under the command of that real traitor Robert D'Evreux, Earl of Essex.† To meet this formidable force, raised against the will and command of the Sovereign, the commission of array was ordered to be put in execution; and James, Lord Strange, son and heir apparent of William, Earl of Derby, was by the King appointed one of the commissioners of array, and Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire and Cheshire; to whose acts and deeds before Manchester, I shall now confine the thread of my story.

His Lordship, firmly adhering to the cause of his

\* Rushworth's coll, vol. 1. p. 550. † Milner's Letters, p. 293, and Nalson's Collections, vol. 2. p. 647.

royal master, strenuously exerted himself to put the commission of array in full vigour. To accomplish this object, he took an affectionate leave of his Majesty at York, early in July; advanced towards Lancashire, and arrived before Manchester about the 4th of the same month. The skirmish which there took place between Lord Strange and the inhabitants of the town, with the number of men slain and wounded on both sides, is detailed in the following particulars, printed by order of the Parliament, July 9th, 1642, entitled

THE BEGINNING OF  
CIVIL WARRES

IN  
ENGLAND,

OR  
TERRIBLE  
NEWS FROM

THE  
NORTH.

The malignant Party of this Kingdom hath for a long time continued in their wicked and damnable Designs; insomuch, that their impudence is grown to such a height, that they are not ashamed to make their intentions publicly known to the whole world, as may appear by the ensuing Relation.

Upon the 4th of this instant Month of July, 1642, the Lord Strange came from York, and approached near the Town of Manchester with a great number of Armed Men, and coming near the Town, he sent to the Inhabitants thereof to know their Minds, whether they would agree to the Propositions which he had sent them two or three days before, for the restoring of the Magazine, which were in that Town to his own Custody, threatening them, that, if they would not, he would send such a Messenger, that would make them Yeeld, and bring them to due Subjection. ✓

The Inhabitants having received this Message, Resolved to send their Answer unto him, which they did accordingly, that for the Magazine, which was in that Town, they would not restore it to him, it being the only safeguard and Defence they had.

And they likewise declared, that, if his Lordship did take any other Course to seize upon it violently, they would loose their dearest lives in defence thereof, by reason the Country was in such a great distraction and perplexity, that they did not know, how soon they might be dispossessed of all they had, if so be they had not Arms to defend themselves withall. The Lord Strange having received this Answer, and hearing what their resolution and intention were, hee was much perplexed in mind,

drawing all his forces together, he marched against the said Town of Manchester, and shot off three or four Muskets against them, but the Inhabitants, seeing that he were come, and that hee were resolved to take the Magazine away by force, understanding his full intention by the Messengers, which Came from him, they Resolved every Man to fight it out.

Whereupon each Man stood upon his own guard, and about 9 of the Clock in the Morning of the 5th day of this present Month, the Lord Strange came with his forces against the Town, and would have entered, but they kept him out by force, but Captain Smith, being in the front, gaye a fierce firing against the Inhabitants of Manchester, but was answered with most puissant Courage again, and slew two of the Lord's Men.

Whereupon a great and furious Skirmish did ensue; the Lord Strange having besieged the Town he began to give Battell against them; but the Inhabitants, being true within themselves, ordered the business so well, that they drew out ten small Companies, and set them in a faire Battalion against them, answering each other very furiously at the first; but after some two or three houres skirmish, there were Seven more of the LORD STRANGE's Men Slain, and two of the Inhabitants of Man-

chester; onely one Master Band was shot in the Thigh. After they had ceased two or three houres, they ended the Battle with the Sun of the Day, the LORD STRANGE withdrawing his forces about two Miles from Manchester; having lost, as is justly supposed, 27 Men; of the other Side 11. Captain Band is well recovered again, praised be God.

Wee expect daily, when the L. STRANGE will visit us again; but I hope the Lord will enable us against his Coming. They gave out Many threatening Speeches against us, and it is thought here, that he hath sent for many more forces towards YORK.

The Lord Rivers gives out many Scandalous Speeches against us, and striveth by all Means he possibly can, to set the Whole country against us.

This is the beginning of CIVILL WARRE, being the first stroke, that hath bin struck, and the first Bullet, that hath bin shot; but God knowes, when the ending will be, or when the troubles of this Kingdome will grow to a period. Many thousands, I doubt, will loose their Lives, before that this Kingdome will be settled in peace and unity, as it hath bin formerly; for no man knoweth the Cruelty of War, but those that have felt and tryed it; for when that time cometh, many a child will be Fatherlesse, and many a poor wife Husbandlesse.



But God of his great Mercy, stop the Sword from going any furthur, and as it is but a little way drawn, so LORD I beseech thee, sheath it again, before that it be drawn any furthur, that so by that Means the Walls of Syon may not be beaten down nor destroyed.

It is ordered, that the Lord Strange be required to deliver that part of the Magazine of the County of Lancaster into the hands of the Deputy Lieutenants.

Ordered that this be printed and published.

JOHN BROWN, CLERK: PARL:

About this time these Parliamentary gentlemen, sir Thomas Stanley, Mr. Richard Holland, Mr. Holcroft, Mr. Egerton, Mr. Booth, with Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Moore, two members of the House of Commons, had stationed themselves at Manchester to oppose Lord Strange. Nevertheless on the 15th of the same Month, coming again to the town with about 400 men, he was invited by the Gentlemen resident in that place, to a banquet.\* Whilst they were sitting at dinner Captain Holcroft and Captain Birch (firm Parliamentarians) with their forces entered the town, and beat to arms: a skirmish ensued, and one Richard Percival, a linen-webster

\* Lancashire's Valley of Achor.

of Kirkmansbulme, was slain by the royalists, under the command of his Lordship; for which the parliament afterwards attempted to impeach him.

After this affair Lord Strange retired into Cheshire, but was there resisted by sir William Brereton, and other gentlemen of the County, and prevented from seizing the County Magazine: nor could even the earl of Rivers sufficiently assist him. This nobleman (who was a papist) the King had joined with him in the Commission of array, to make good that County for his Majesty, but he could not accomplish it, because the Catholics, who remained faithful to the Monarch, were all disarmed by those Protestant gentlemen, who adhered to the Parliament.\*

While these transactions were carrying on in the neighbouring County, the House of Commons were employed in deep consultation, how they could bring the valiant Lord Strange to punishment, for the transaction at Manchester. The result of their deliberations was, that, on the 14th Sep. 1642, sir Robert Harley brought up to the House of Lords an impeachment of high treason against his Lordship; and for the information of my readers, I shall transcribe this precious document, the production of a factious Parliament, against a noble

\* May's Hist. p. 110, and Rush: Coll. Vol. 1. p. 680.

Lord for valiantly standing forth to defend the cause of Royalty, and for endeavouring to reduce a rebellious country to a due sense of obedience to the Laws. It is drawn up in these words:

THE IMPEACHMENT OF JAMES, LORD STRANGE, SON  
AND HEIR APPARENT OF WILLIAM, EARL OF DERBY,  
BY THE COMMONS ASSEMBLED IN PARLIAMENT,  
IN THE NAME OF THEMSELVES, AND ALL THE COM-  
MONS OF ENGLAND, OF HIGH TREASON.

That the said James, Lord Strange, to the intent and purpose to subvert the fundamental laws and Government of this Kingdom of England, and the rights and liberties, and very being of parliaments: And to set sedition between the King and the people, did, upon the fifteenth day of July, in this present year of our Lord God, one thousand six hundred forty two, at Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, and at several other times and places, actually, maliciously, rebelliously, and traitorously, summon and call together great numbers of his Majesty's subjects; and incite, persuade, and encourage them to take up arms, and levy war against the King, Parliament, and kingdom. That the said James, Lord Strange, in further prosecution of his foresaid wicked, traitorous, and malicious purposes, did, upon

the said fifteenth day of July, at Manchester aforesaid, and at several other times and places, actually, maliciously, rebelliously, and traitorously, raise great forces of men and horse, and levied war against the King, Parliament, and Kingdom. And in further prosecution of the aforesaid wicked, traitorous, and malicious purposes, the said James, Lord Strange, and divers other persons, whom he had drawn into his party and faction, did, also, upon the fifteenth day of July, at Manchester aforesaid, maliciously and traitorously, with force and arms, and in an hostile and warlike manner, kill, murder, and destroy, Richard Percival, of Kirkmanshulme, in the said county of Lancaster, Linen-Webster; and did then and there, and at divers other times and places, in like hostile manner as aforesaid, shoot, stab, hurt, and wound, divers others of his Majesty's good subjects, contrary to the laws and peace of this Kingdom of England, and contrary to his Majesty's Royal crown and dignity. And the said James, Lord Strange, hath set sedition between the King and his people, and now is in open and actual Rebellion against the King, Parliament, and Kingdom. For which matters and things the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses of the House of Commons in Parliament assembled, do, in the name of themselves, and of all the Commons of England, im-

peach the said James, Lord Strange, of high treason. And the said Commons, by Protestation, saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting at any time hereafter any other accusation or impeachment against the said Lord Strange, and also to replying that of the answers of the said James, Lord Strange, shall make to the premises, or any of them, or of any such other impeachment or accusation that shall be exhibited by them, as the cause, according to the course and proceedings of Parliament shall require, do pray, that the said James, Lord Strange, may be put to answer all and every the premises, that such proceedings, examinations, trials, and judgments, may be upon them, and every one of them had and used, as shall be agreeable to Law and Justice.\*

When this notable impeachment was taken to the House of Lords, they ordered, that the answer to be returned to the Commons should be; "that this House hath received the impeachment against the Lord Strange, and that they will take the best course they can, to have the Lord Strange brought to answer the said impeachment."

Howbeit, their Lordships, found themselves in a serious dilemma, when they took into their con-

\* Rush. coll. vol. 1, p. 689.

sideration, what course they should follow, for sending to summon Lord Strange to appear and answer his impeachment of High treason. They began to perceive, that, if messengers were despatched, they might be imprisoned, and, if proclamation-writs were sent down, they would not be sealed; therefore they thought fit to communicate these their fears to the House of Commons, and to advise with them, how delinquents, under such circumstances, might be brought to trial. A message was accordingly sent to desire a conference with the Commons, concerning the impeachment of Lord Strange. Consequently an order was made, in the nature of a proclamation against the Lord Strange, in the following words.

*Die Veneris 16<sup>o</sup> Septembris, 1642.*

Whereas the Lord Strange, having continued a long time, and still remaining in actual rebellion against his Majesty and the Parliament, is for the same impeached of High treason by the House of Commons, in the name of themselves, and all the Commons of England. It is therefore ordered, by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled; that publication thereof be made in all the churches and chapels by the Curates and Churchwardens thereof; and in all Markets and towns by the Constable and Officers of the towns, within the Coun-

D

ties of Lancaster and Chester, to the end that all his Majesty's loving subjects may have notice thereof; lest being deceived by the spacious pretences made by the said Lord Strange, they shall assist him with Men, Money, Munition, or any other Provision, and so make themselves guilty of the like treason and Rebellion: And all sheriffs, and others his Majesty's subjects, are hereby required to do their best endeavours for the apprehension of the said Lord, and the bringing him up to the Parliament, there to receive condign punishment according to his demerits.\*—And they ordered the same to be sent up to the Lords for their concurrence, by sir Guy Palmes. This was accordingly done the same day, and the answer of their Lordships was; "that they agreed with the House of Commons in the order concerning the Lord Strange."†

These pusillanimous attempts of the Parliament appears to have been treated by his Majesty's good subjects with that merited contempt and derision, which they so very properly deserved; for neither the impeachment, nor the declaration of the Commons, that I can learn, were, even, either acted upon, or put in force.

Still, however, Lord Strange never for a moment

\* Journals of the Commons, p. 768.

† Journals of the Lords, p. 357.

ceased to fulfil the important trust reposed in him: yet the evil spirits of some of the disaffected were actively alive, and, spurred on by an envious disposition, insidiously insinuated, that the country was put in fear not only by the frequent meetings of the Commissioners of array for this county, amongst themselves, but also with the Commissioners of the adjacent counties; and that some of them had given out threatening and desperate language, that they would plunder, batter down, burn the houses, and disarm the persons of all such as did not comply with them. All which speeches and undertakings they conceived to be expressly contrary to his Majesty's frequent declarations for the maintenance of the right and property of the subject. They in consequence bound themselves, in defence of their friends and country, to give faith and assurance to each other, that, if any attempt were made, they would upon notice given, be ready with all their strength and force, to assist, and defend from violence, all such, as should be so attempted against.† Such insinuations and reflections soon reached the ear of Lord Strange, which caused him to write the following letter, still preserved in the Harl. MSS. 2095, fol. 235, and, I believe, never before published. This shows he was

† Harl. MSS. 2095.



not the rebellious unfeeling traitor, that his enemies wished to represent him ; but on the contrary proves him to have been a warm and patriotic friend to his country, a lover of peace, and an enemy to all, who would do any thing derogatory to law, strict justice and integrity.

“ To my very loving friends, Mr. Richard Brereton, and Mr. Hugh Wilbraham.

GENTLEMEN,

It seemes by you there is much apprehension among manie in the county of Chester, of some badde intent by the commissioners of array, at this present, against divers gentlemen and others, with designe to plunder their houses. I assure you there is noe such direccion or consent of myne. But, contrariwise, I shall sende unto them to beware thereof, with this declaracion, that, if soe they doe contrarie to my owne request unto them, I will take part with others against them, And hereof you maie acquaint whom you please with this purpose of

Your assured friend,

Sept. 6th, 1642.

STRANGE.”

We are now drawing near to a period, when Manchester was again to be the scene of confusion and bloodshed. Scarcely had it recovered from

the shock of the two late assaults occasioned by its disloyalty, before it was doomed to meet with another still more violent than the former. At this time the town is stated to have been in a very flourishing condition, but the town's-people were divided among themselves, some declaring for the King and others for the Parliament. In this critical conjecture, Mr. Richard Holland,\* of Denton, Mr. Peter Egerton, of Shaw, Mr. Erid, (Hyde,) of Denton, Deputy-Lieutenants of Lancashire, by an ordinance of Parliament,† held a council with the town, and it was by them ordered, that the Militia should seize upon it, in the name of the Parliament, which was accordingly done. The standard of Rebellion being now hoisted, a great number of

\* Mr. Richard Holland, of Denton and Heaton, near Manchester, commanded a regiment of foot in the Parliament's service, and took an active part in the civil wars; and member for Lancashire in Cromwell's second Parliament, (1654.) He was the 9th in descent from sir William Holland, descended of a younger son of the illustrious family of Holland, of Holland, in this County, who became seated at Denton as early as the reign of Edward 3d, by marriage with Margaret, the daughter of Robert Shoresworth, by Margaret his wife daughter and sole heir of Robert Denton, of Denton. The said Richard, married Catherine daughter of William Ramsden, of Longley, and was aged 36 years, (ad mortem patris) at the death of his father Edward, 1636.

† Vizar's Parliamentary Chronicle, Lond. 1644 p. 173.

the country people assembled together and marched into the town, where being joined by many of the townsmen they were daily trained and exercised with the Militia, who in a short time became expert soldiers, and able and active pikemen. But the greatest strength the town received was from the fortifications, posts, chains, and mud walls thrown up at the ends of the streets, under the direction of Captain John Roseworme, a German engineer, whom the town had engaged to perform this particular service, and in the warmth of their fears, twenty-two Gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, covenanted to give him £30 for his assistance in fortifying it; and among them I am sorry to observe the name of Richard Heyrick, then warden of the Collegiate church. But in performing this business of fixing the posts and chains, they were greatly annoyed by the loyalists in the town, who still strenuously adhered to the cause of the monarch, and threatened to take away Roseworm's life.

While these commotions were going on in Manchester, the King's party in Cheshire, under the command of sir Edward Fitton, and Mr. Thos. Leigh of Adlington, disarmed all the rebels in that quarter of such arms and other implements, as they had provided themselves with, under the pretence of

safety and protection to themselves and their families. This so alarmed many of the country people around Manchester, who had not yet openly declared their intentions, that they assembled together and marched in large bodies into the town, and joined the Militia, and the other rebels, which greatly facilitated the fixing of the posts and chains, and perfecting of the fortifications, which had hitherto been strongly opposed and not finished. ✓

Now arrived a time when doubts, fears, and alarms, was to give place to real actions and sufferings in a contest between a lawful monarch and his rebellious subjects. For in the night of Saturday, September 24th, 1642, certain intelligence reached the town, ~~that~~<sup>that</sup> the gallant Lord Strange, aided by Lord Molineaux, and several other gentlemen (who all assisted the king with men and money) was marching with strong forces from Warrington towards Manchester. ✓

The forces in the town consisted of the Militia and the insurgents, together with about 150 tenants, of Mr. Ralph Ashton,\* of Middleton, fully equip-

\* Colonel Ralph Ashton, was member of Parliament for Lancashire, in the early part of the reign of Charles 1st, although an active Parliamentary Officer, his son Ralph was created a Baronet upon the restoration of Charles 2d, August 17th, 1660. He

ped, under the command of Captain Bradshaw; the town's forces were commanded by Captain

died in 1650, and lies buried under a black marble slab, beneath the stairs leading to a gallery in the south-east end of the south aisle in Middleton church, the following inscription is engraved on a brass plate inserted in the stone.

MEMORIE SACRVM,

RADVLPHI ASHETON ARMIGERI, DOMINI DE MIDDLETON, PII IN DEVM  
PATRIAM ET SVOS, COPIARVM OMNIVM IN AGRO LANCASTRENSI  
(SVPREMI SENATVS AVTHORITATE CONSCRIPTARVM) PRÆFECTI FORTIS  
ET FIDELIS, QVI CVM E CONJVGE SVA ELIZABETHA (FILIA JOHANNIS  
KAYE DE WOODSOME IN COM. EBORACENS ARMIGERI) SUSCEPISSET FI-  
LIOS TRES, RICHARDVM, RADVLPHVM, JOHANNEM, TOTIDEMQ; FILIAS  
ELIZABETHAM, MARIAM, ANNAM, OBDORMITIT IN JESV 17 FEB:  
ANNO DOMINI 1650 ETATISQ; SVÆ 46 CURRENTE.

Above the inscription are the effigies of the colonel and his lady; he is habited in armour, with his sword unsheathed; the lady is represented in the costume of the times, on a shield over his head are these arms. Quarterly 1st and 4th Ashton, argent, a mullet sable, charged with an annulet, or, 2d and 3d, quarterly 1st and 4th Barton, érmine, on a fess gules, three annulets, or, 2d and 3d....paly of six, argent and azure. Over the lady are these, Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Kay, argent two bends, sable, 2d and 3d... on a cheveron, three rooks.

Translation of the monumental inscription,

Sacred to the memory of Ralph Ashton, esqr. Lord of Middleton, faithful to God, his country, and his friends; the brave and faithful commander of all the forces in Lancashire, (levied by the supreme authority of Parliament) who, after he had issue by his wife Elizabeth, (daughter of John Kay, of Woodsome, in the county of York, esqr.) three sons, Richard, Ralph, and John,

Radcliff,\* who upon the beating of a drum, repaired to the end of the town, declaring they would maintain their liberty and property to the utmost hazard of their lives. The bells of the church were rung, and posts sent to different parts of the country places, to give notice of their imminent danger. Upon this alarm Mr. Richard Holland, of Denton, Captain John Booth, youngest son of sir George and as many daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Ann, slept in Jesus, 17 Feb. in the year of our Lord 1650, and of his age the 45th. ✓

\* Captain Radcliff lived at Radcliff hall, situated in the Pool Fold, in Manchester; it was formerly moated round, and a draw-bridge gave admittance to the principal entrance, which faced towards Chapel Walks; and was latterly flanked on two sides by a large garden. The mansion was constructed of timber and plaster, with huge projecting stone chimneys, and gable ends, similar to old Garrett hall, and bore the appearance of the residence of an English gentleman of subordinate rank. Upwards of half a century ago it was occupied by Mrs. Patten; and about 40 years since Mr. James Smith obtained a licence to convert a part of it into an inn, known by the denomination of the Sun Tavern, for the convenience of the new market then erected; the remaining part of it was also at the same time licenced by the name of the King's Arms. About a dozen years ago this house and the adjoining ground were purchased on a chief rent from <sup>the executors of the late</sup> sir ~~Colman~~ John Mosley, Bart. by Mr. Thomas Robinson, who took down the old building, and on its site erected the present respectable cotton warehouses, in New Market Buildings, immediately facing the opening of Pool Fold, leading into Market-street. Captain Radcliff was member of Parliament, for the town of Manchester, during the time of the Commonwealth. X

Booth,\* of Dunham, Bart. and many other country gentlemen, with their tenants and neighbours joined them.

His Majesty's forces, when they marched from Warrington, are stated by the rebels to have consisted of 4000 foot,† 200 Dragoons, and 100 Horsemen, besides seven pieces of ordnance of from four to six pounds calibre. On their march the army divided, a part came through Cheshire, and took

\* This sir George Booth of Dunham, was Knighted in the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and created a Baronet by James the 1st, May 22d, 1611. He was a warm partisan of the Presbyterians, and died in October, 1652, at the advanced age of 86, leaving sir George, his grandson and heir, son of William, who died in the life-time of his father, having married Vere, third daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Egerton, Lord high Chancellor of England. This noble personage fully wiped away the foul stain left by the defection of his grandfather and uncle, by his loyalty to his Majesty, King Charles 2d, whom he served with great fidelity, having raised horse and foot for his service; and being a member in the Parliament, which restored him to his kingdom: he was one of the Committee of the House, appointed to wait upon his Majesty at the Hague; and on the 20th of April, 1661, he was raised by him to the dignity of Baron Delamere, of Dunham Massey.

† I suspect this number to be greatly exaggerated, although we are called upon by Seacombe to believe a romantic story, that Lord Strange mustered 60,000 men on three heaths, yet it appears, he only brought up 3000 men to the King at Shrewsbury, early in October, 1642.

up a position on the south side of the town of Manchester, at a house of sir Edward Mosley's, called the Lodge.\* This portion of the forces was under

\* The Lodge was situated in Aldport Park, which was held soon after the first foundation of the Collegiate Church, by the Warden thereof, under a rent of 4 marks per annum, from Richard West, Lord de la Warre, Lord of Manchester, and continued to be enjoyed by his successors in office under the same annual rent until the dissolution of the College in the reign of Edward the Sixth, when it was granted to the earl of Derby, with the rest of the College Land. On the 8th of March, 41st Elizabeth, William, earl of Derby, granted this Park under the name of Nether Aldport, with the Lodge therein, and certain fields called Over Alport, together with other Lands, which lay between the pales of the said Park and the Irwell, to sir Randle Brereton, of Malpas, Knight, for a term of 2000 years, who immediately disposed of them to Thomas Rowe, of Hartford, in the County of Chester, Yeoman, who also sold his interest therein, on the 21st day of May following, to Oswald Mosley, the elder of Manchester, esqr. Edward Mosley, of Grays Inn, esqr. (afterwards Attorney-General of the Duchy of Lancaster,) and Adam Smythe, of Manchester, Mercer. In the 44th Elizabeth, (1602,) the above-named purchasers divided the said Lands amongst themselves by a deed of partition, in which it was agreed that Edward Mosley, esqr. should have the Capital Messuage called Alport Lodge, and the reversion of 40 acres and a half of the said Lands, as his share,---that Oswald Mosley, esqr. should have 24 acres, one Roodland and a half, and 2 falles of the said Lands as his share; and that Mr. Adam Smythe should have 30 acres and a half of the said Lands as his share. Thus it appears, that Alport Park and Over Alport contained in the whole 95 acres



the immediate command of Lord Strange. The other part marched along the opposite bank of the Mersey and Irwell towards Salford, but on their route, as they forded a small rivulet swelled to a great height by a fall of heavy rain, they had the misfortune to break the wheels of one of their ordnance carriages, that considerably retarded the progress of the forces, which did not approach the

and upwards, and would cover the whole area between the Rivers Irwell and Tib, and between the River Medlock and the present Quay-street. The Park was situated upon the right of the road to Knot Mill, and included the present Castle and Camp Fields, for Camden mentions the foundation of the Castle as being visible in his time within this Park of the earl of Derby.

The precise situation of the Lodge cannot be ascertained with accuracy, but I have good reason to suppose, that it stood near the spot now occupied by Samuel Ward's house and Plumber's shop, adjoining to Alport-street, (now called Deansgate,) and almost opposite to the end of Fleet-street. It may be observed, that, cannon planted upon this spot, would have a full command of Deansgate, which was then the only entrance into the town, from the Cheshire side, and from whence Lord Strange approached it with part of his forces.

This Mansion, together with the Lands allotted to Edward Mosley, esqr. by the above-named deed of partition was settled by him upon his elder brother Rowland Mosley, esqr. and his heir, who was the sir Edward Mosley, mentioned in the text, then possessing it---and from him these Lands have descended to the present worthy Baronet, sir Oswald Mosley.

town of Salford until nine o'clock on Sunday morning, when sundry companies appeared in open view. On their arrival two gentlemen were deputed from Manchester to wait upon his Lordship to know the reason of his appearing in so formidable an array. His Lordship immediately detained one of them as a hostage, and sent Captain Windebank to require, that his army might take instant possession of the town in the name of the King, which was unanimously denied him.\* The next day, Monday, September 26th, his Lordship sent another messenger to the same purport as before, adding further his solemn promise to treat the town with every due kindness and respect, otherwise fearful destruction might ensue; but his mild and patriotic request was denied, and his threat disregarded.

All attempts at negotiation having failed, his Lordship gave orders for the troops, on the right bank of the Irwell, to take possession of Salford, which they did without any opposition, (for the inhabitants of that place had already declared for the King,†) and the forces were stationed opposite Salford Bridge. About twelve o'clock the same day, (Monday,) under a heavy fall of rain the artillery and troops, stationed in and around Ald-

\* Vicar's Parliamentary Chronicle, p. 174.

† Ibid. p. 175.

port Lodge, commenced a tremendous discharge of artillery on Deansgate,\* which was immediately seconded by the troops and ordnance from Salford over the Old Bridge. The artillery having played on a few hours, an order was given that afternoon to storm the out-works, which was instantly complied with, and the battle begun to rage with awful fury on both sides for sometime ; but they were unable to dislodge the besieged from their strong works, and some soldiers were despatched to set fire to two barns and eight or ten dwelling-houses, situated about twelve roods from their out-works, near the end of Deansgate ; which being effected, the King's forces with loud shouting cried out, " the town is ours—the town is ours," and again vigorously renewed the assault, but were repulsed by the soldiers under the command of Captain Bradshaw, and several of them were slain in the attempt. The barns and houses burnt with great rapidity, and the wind blowing towards the town, the flames and smoke

✓ \* The Deansgate did not extend at this period much beyond the end of the present back King-street ; with the exception of a few scattered houses along the high road leading to Alport. And Market-street lane extended nearly to the present Spring Gardens. By Salford Bridge is meant the Old Bridge which formed the only communication at that time between Manchester and Salford.

seriously annoyed the besieged; but shortly after it changed its direction, and in all probability the town was saved from being reduced to ashes. The forces, stationed in Salford, at the same time made a furious charge over the defile of the Old Bridge, but were obliged to retire by the troops under Captain John Roseworthe, with the loss of a few men : but taking possession of a house at the end of the Old Bridge, they kept up a continued firing of musket shot on the besieged the whole night. In the affray of this day, (however improbable it may appear,) the Parliamentarians are stated not to have lost one man.\*

Other assaults were made on Tuesday at various ends of the town; and in particular, at the end of Market-street lane; but here they were also repulsed by the troops under the command of Captain Radcliff. After this the townsmen and militia sallied forth, took divers prisoners; and, with a barbarous and savage ferocity, slew or put to flight many others, who were found straggling in the fields.† This morning one of the King's soldiers was found mortally wounded, who confessed to the rebels that he was one of the seven, who set fire to the barns

\* Vicars p. 175.

† Ibid.

and houses. However kindly he might have been treated, he expired the following day.

To spare any further effusion of blood, Lord Strange\* about five o'clock on the evening of Tuesday, sounded a parley; and sent into the town the following message in writing, dictated from a heart filled with compassion for the mistaken and illjudged disobedience of his countrymen; as likewise for the safety and protection of the fair sex, and their infant offspring.

“In obedience to his Majestie’s commands I have drawnesome forces hither, with no intention of prejudice to your towne, or any person in it; but to require your ready obedience to his Majestie, in yeelding yourselves dutifully and cheerefully to his protection; which I once more (so great is the value I set upon the effusion of one drop of my Countrie’s blood,) summon you too, under this assurance, that no man’s person or goods shall be

\* Walpole, in his catalogue of royal and noble authors, page 192, says of this nobleman. “Among the sufferers for King Charles the First none cast greater lustre on the cause, than this heroic Lord, who seems to have been actuated by a true spirit of honour and disinterestedness. Some contracted great merit from their behaviour in that quarrel; the conduct and brave death of this Lord were but the conclusion of a life of virtue, accomplishments, and humanity.”

harm'd, so as you give up your arms to be disposed of by me, according to his Majestie's commands. But, if you shall yet continue obstinate in your disobedience, and resolve to stand it out, I will in that way proceed with all honour, by offering you a safe convey of your women and children out of the Towne, so as it be done immediately."

Ten o'clock the next morning was the time required by the puritanical gentlemen of the Town to deliver in their answer. His Lordship granted them till seven. In the mean time it was mutually agreed on both sides, that all acts of hostility should be suspended; which the rebels inform us was exactly performed on their side, by which means their soldiers, who had been wearied with watching and fighting for three days and nights, got comfortably refreshed. Notwithstanding these protestations on their part, it appears, that at the very same time, they had about 150 men marching from Bolton to their assistance;\* the King's troops receiving intimation thereof sallied forth, attacked and slew two of them, and planted a battery of two more pieces of ordnance in Salford; but they were dislodged the next day by the raking and galling fire of the musketeers, so advantageously stationed in the Collegiate Church-yard. ✓

\* Vicar, p. 176.

Early on Wednesday morning, the gentlemen of the town sent in their answer to his Lordship's message, which is couched in terms similar to those that had previously emanated from the House of Commons to the Monarch.—Worthy servants of worthy masters! It is as follows.

“ May it please your honour to receive this Answer to your Propositions. Wee are not conscious to our selves of any act committed by us, that you should in the least kinde divest us, his Majestie's Loyall Subjects, of his royall protection, nor of any disobedience to his Majestie's Lawfull Commands; for we can no way perswade our selves that his Majestie, who hath so often and so solemnly declared to rule his people by his Lawes, and to preserve the propertie of our estates, should now require us to give away our Arms, which are (under God) one meanes of our lawful defence against malignant enemies, and multitudes of bloody Papists, which do abound in our County; and had not God, by his infinite mercie prevented, had, ere this day, made the like Rebellion in our Countrey, and committed the like barbarous outrages against us and all others of the true Protestant Religion, as their bloody brethren have done in Ireland, seeing they are acted by the same hellish Principles as they. And we cannot but much wonder, that your honour should come against us in such an open

hostile manner to take away our Armes, which is so absolutely against all Law, and the right of the subject, which we are bound and faithfully resolved to maintain, according to our late solemn Protestation. And we can by no means be assured by your Lordship of the safety of our persons and goods, if we deliver up our Armes, seeing, since this Treaty, some of our neighbours houses, being Protestants, have been plundered, or attempted to be plundered, and some of our friends coming in a peaceable way to our relief, have been cruelly murdered, and slain by some of your soldiers."

Such was the reply received to his Lordship's message; when he a few hours afterwards sent sir John Mounson again to negotiate with them, and gave him instructions to inform them, that he would be content, if they would deliver up a part of their arms.

The next part which the gentlemen of the town acted, clearly shows, that they were mercenary slaves, and completely under the controul of a furious and rebellious soldiery, for they referred sir John to the military for an answer, who all resolutely answered, "they would not give him a yard of Match, but would maintain their cause and Armes to the utmost drop of their blood."\* With

\* Vicar, p. 176.



this message sir John Mounson returned to his Lordship, who (we may naturally suppose) being enraged therewith, ordered his ordnance again to play upon the Town, but all his shots, says my author, by God's Providence, did no harm, only, that they killed a lad, who stood gazing on the top of a style, and was shot through the side with a cannon bullet, but no other harm done thereby.

On Thursday morning, September 29th, Captain Standish, eldest son of Mr. Standish, of Duxbury, was slain by a musket shot from the tower of the Collegiate church, whilst he was looking out of the door of one Robert Widdow's house, in Salford,\* and the soldiers under his command immediately fled.

On this day, September 29th, William, earl of Derby,† died at his house on the banks of the river

\* Lancashires Valley of Achor.

† William Stanley sixth earl of Derby, was second son of Henry, the fourth earl, by Margaret, only child of Henry Clifford, earl of Cumberland, by Eleanor his wife, second daughter and co-heir of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, by Mary, daughter of King Henry 7th, and widow of Lewis 12th, King of France. This nobleman, after an absence of upwards of twenty years on various parts of the Continent, returned to his native country, sometime after the untimely death of his elder brother Ferdinando, who is supposed to have died by poison, in 1594, when he found all the estates of the earldom settled on his brother's three daughters.

Dee, near Chester, and was succeeded in the title by his eldest son, James Lord Strange, now earl of Derby; and either grief for the loss of his venerable parent, or a letter he received from his Majesty, requesting him to bring up his forces and meet him at Shrewsbury, was the cause of the earl's shortly after withdrawing his troops from before the town.

Whereupon a dispute, and an action at law arose between him and the heirs general. After six or seven years tedious and dilatory proceedings in the courts of law, it was mutually agreed between the parties to refer all their differences to arbitrators, when Cecil, Lord Burleigh, and five other noblemen being chosen, they decreed to the said William, earl of Derby, the ancient seats of Latham and Knowsley, with all the Castles, Houses, Lands, and Appurtenances in Lancashire, Cumberland, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Wales: and to the co-heiresses, the Baronies of Strange, Knocking, Mohun, Barnwell, Basset, and Lacy, together with all the Castles, Houses, Manors, and Lands, thereunto belonging. The earl growing old and infirm, besides being wearied with repeated litigations and law suits for the recovery of his ancient inheritance, and desirous to spend the evening of his days in peace and retirement, by a deed, bearing date the 11th of August, 1637, conveyed over the whole of his possessions with the exception of £1000 per annum, to his eldest son, James, Lord Strange, and retired to a house on the banks of the river Dee, where he died, as above stated, on the 29th September, and was buried at Chester; and nearly twenty years afterwards, according to the Ormskirk Registers, he was disinterred and conveyed from Chester, and buried in the Derby Vault, at Ormskirk, 30th June, 1662.

The next day (Friday,) little was done; but the earl continued to play upon the town with his ordnance and musket shots from Salford and the Lodge; and he caused a deep trench to be cast up before the south end of Deansgate, as if he intended to make a long siege. His cannon shots made several holes in divers houses and beat down part of a chimney, but little damage else was done. At night, however, his cannons were removed, and on Saturday he sent to request an exchange of Prisoners, and that plundering might cease on both sides. Prisoners were exchanged accordingly, and about noon on that day the earl retired from the siege: and thus terminated this remarkable affair at Manchester.

The Earl was said to have lost about 200 men, and some officers; whereof three were buried at Didsbury. But the number of men slain on the part of the town is stated not to have exceeded four.

The town's soldiers were daily praying and singing psalms at the ends of the streets, and were stated to have been honest and devout men, and came to assist the town out of conscience of their oath and protestation! and the inhabitants were extremely kind in rendering them every assistance, and all things were common among them (*omnia inter amicos communia*!) The gentlemen in the town were casting bullets for the military night and day; the Deputy Lieutenants, Captain Chantwell, and seve-

ral others, took great pains to see, that the soldiers did their duty, and to encourage and advise them in their different stations.

A town's soldier was accidentally slain by his comrade's musket going off unawares. One bullet cut a man's hip; another took away the bandileers from a soldier's side, and a cannon ball touched Captain Bradshaw's arm, yet none of them received any serious harm.

On the 3d of October, divers letters reached the Parliament from Cheshire and Lancashire, relating to the siege of Manchester, by Lord Strange, and they ordered them and the state of the business of the County to be referred to the committee of the safety of the Kingdom; and so anxious were they to preserve not only so important a station, as the town, but the whole County, that they ordered Captain Ven to recommend the business to the Committee at London, and desire them to expedite and send down their levies of Dragoons with all possible despatch into Lancashire. All prisoners taken at Manchester, or thereabouts, were to be delivered into the care of the Deputy Lieutenants, and by them either to be committed to prison, or else sent up to the Parliament,\* as they in their discretion should think most

\* Journals of the House of Commons, p. 792.

convenient. On the tenth of the same month the House of Commons received several other letters dated on the 7th and 8th from Manchester, relating to the state of the town, that the earl of Derby had left the siege on Saturday night last, and retired to his house at Latham. And on the 11th, a whole relation of the actions of the earl and his forces before Manchester ; and of the courage of the inhabitants of the town for their defence, was read and ordered to be printed.\*

A public thanksgiving to God for his gracious deliverance of Manchester was ordered by the Commons to be observed in all churches and chapels throughout Lancashire. Their order and declaration was to be published in all market towns in the County. The Knights and Burgesses serving for the same were strictly commanded to send down a considerable number of these declarations, and also required to render a strict account, that the publication and performance thereof were rigidly observed. They also ordered, that the Feoffees of the Free Grammar School, of Manchester, should not renew the lease of the town's mills to Mr. Prestwich, or any other for his use, which had expired at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel then past, because he was one of the persons who

\* Journals of the House of Commons, p. 803.

assisted at the siege of the town on the part of the royalists. The said Peoffees were required, according to the trust in them reposed, to convert the profits of the said mills to the best improved value for the use of the school, and necessary reparations of the mills, and, in default thereof, the profits of the mills were sequestered into the hands of Richard Holland and Peter Egerton, esquires, by them to be employed for the use of the school.\*

The town now began to feel the fatal effects of war, and all its concomitant train of desolation and deprivation: trade had already begun to decay; the poor and destitute had increased to an enormous extent in the town, and several other places within the county, occasioned by the unhappy distractions of the times.† The Garrison in Manchester was still maintained at a heavy charge by the town, which multiplied and aggravated their distress. They had not yet received any aid or relief from the public treasure in Guildhall, London: the pay of the Garrison in all probability falling short, and mutiny and dissatisfaction following, the Commons on the 29th of October, ordered the Engineers and Officers of the several companies, lying in Garrison at Manchester, to have their pay, according to

\* Journals of the House of Commons, p. 803.

† Ibid, 821.

their places of command, paid them out of the Delinquents' estates, and for security thereof, in the mean time, they were to have the public faith;\* and the same was confirmed by the Lords, on the 1st of November.†

About this time sir Alexander Ratcliff, of Ordsall, knight, an active royalist at the siege of Manchester, was taken prisoner in Essex, and by the Commons on the 2d of November, was committed to the custody of the Serjeant at Arms: the consideration and examination of all the matters concerning him were referred to the committee for the defence of the kingdom; and on the 9th of November, upon the report of that committee, it was resolved, that he was guilty of putting the commission of array in execution, and also of abetting, aiding, and assisting the Earl of Derby, in the action of the siege of Manchester, and he was forthwith committed to the tower, there to remain during the pleasure of the House. The three horses that were seized with him were sent to the commissaries in London to be employed in the service of the Commonwealth.‡

Early in November the Parliamentarians began to strengthen the fortifications and augment the gar-

\* Journals of the House of Commons, p. 827.

† Journals of the House of Lords, p. 426.

‡ Journal of the House of Commons, p. 814.

rison of the town, and for greater strength and security Ralph Ashton, Esq. had granted to him, on the 3d of November, *Mr. Speaker's Warrant*, (as was usual in those times) to convey, without interruption, four small brass pieces of cannon to the town of Manchester; and also one small brass piece for the safety of his own house at Middleton.\*

A committee of propositions was established in the town, and had authority from the Parliament to receive the contribution money, or any other provision from the inhabitants of Chester, or the adjacent counties, and to dispose of them, or any other monies or provision, raised upon this occasion, for the public good.† In consequence of this trust reposed in them, on the 3d of December they sent proposals to the House for raising dragooners, (dragoons) which they referred to their committee for despatch.‡

On the 12th of January, 1643, Sir Thomas Fairfax came to Manchester, where he resided until the 21st, when he marched to relieve the town of Nantwich with 2500 foot, and twenty-eight troops of horse.§

Sir John Seaton, a Scottish knight, well skilled in

\* Journals of the House of Commons, p. 833.

† Ibid, p. 851. ‡ Ibid, p. 874.

§ Rush. Coll. vol. 2. p. 302.



the art of war, and Major-General of the Parliament's forces in Lancashire, attended by Serjeant-Major Sparrow, Colonel Holland, Captain Booth, Serjeant-Major Birch, with three companies of foot, marched from Manchester on Monday, February 10th, to besiege Preston. These are the principal events, that immediately succeeded the siege of the town.

Hitherto I have confined myself to the chief transactions that took place in and around Manchester, and have recorded (as far as I can collect, and I hope faithfully) all the great events, that occurred during that important period. I must now beg the indulgence of the reader, while I relate a few particulars which occurred about that time, relative to a class of his Majesty's subjects, who, although a proscribed, calumniated, and persecuted people, a people too solemnly denounced, as the fomenters, instigators, and "sowers of discord between the king and his faithful commons," remained firm to the monarch under all his difficulties.

Very early in those unhappy dissensions the Catholics of Lancashire, and also those of the whole kingdom, began openly to manifest their anxiety for the well being of the state, and the safety of the nation, which excited serious alarm and fear in the mind of the Parliament; for the rigorous executions

of the penal laws against them were their constant theme, as will shortly appear. After the King had left the metropolis, and retired to York, the Parliament, on the 2d of June, 1649, sent to him a petition containing nineteen propositions, by acceding to which, an accommodation might be effected between his Majesty and the Parliament. The sixth and seventh articles of these disgraceful propositions were to this effect.

6th. "That the laws in force against Jesuits, Priests, and Popish Recusants, be strictly put in execution, without any toleration or dispensation to the contrary."

7th. "That the votes of Popish Lords in the House of Peers may be taken away so long as they continue Papists."\*

His Majesty's answer to these two propositions was, that, "for the Sixth demand concerning the laws in force against Jesuits, Priests, and Popish Recusants, we have by many of our messages to you, by our voluntary promise to you so solemnly made, never to pardon any Popish Priest, by our strict proclamation lately published on this point, and by the public examples, which we have made in that case, since our residence at York and London, sufficiently expressed our zeal herein. For the

\* Rush. Coll. vol. 1, p. 723.

Seventh demand, concerning the votes of the Popish Lords, we understand, that they in descretion have withdrawn themselves from the service of the House of Peers (and had done so, when use was publicly made of their names to asperse the votes of that House, which was then counted malignant, as those, who are called our unknown and unsworn counselors, are now."\*)

Notwithstanding the execution of the sanguinary laws† against them by the benevolent Charles, they

\* Rush. Coll. vol. 1, p. 733.

† Persons professing the Popish religion for not frequenting their parish church, were disabled from taking their lands, either by descent or purchase, after 18 years of age, until they renounced their errors (religion.) They were required at the age of 21 to register their estates, and all future conveyances and wills, relating to them: they were incapable of presenting to any advowson, nor keep or teach any school, under pain of perpetual imprisonment: and if they willingly said, or heard mass, they forfeited for the first 200, and for the second 100 marks, and suffer a year's imprisonment for each offence. If any person sent another abroad to be educated in the Popish religion, or to reside in any religious house abroad for that purpose, or contributed to their maintenance, both the sender, the sent, and the contributor were disabled to sue in law or equity, their goods and chattels were forfeited, and all their real estates for life. Any person reconciled to the Catholic religion, or procured others to be reconciled, the offence amounted to High Treason. Popish Recusants were considered as persons excommunicated; they could hold

no sooner perceived the Monarchy in danger, and their country fast hastening to anarchy and confusion, than we may behold them one and all, not only in the commencement of these disturbances, draining their estates by voluntary contributions, in order to enable him to suppress those insurrections; but afterwards, when civil war had actually broken out, being disabled by the laws from bearing arms, humbly soliciting to serve under his banners; and the Catholics of Lancashire sent to his Majesty, who was then at Shrewsbury, the following memorable petition to suffer them to be armed in his defence.

no office or employment, keep no arms in their houses, but the same might be seized by the justices of the peace, nor come within ten miles of London, nor travel five miles from home, unless by licence, nor come to court, on pain of £100. And by statute of 30 Charles 2d, they were suspended from having any seat in Parliament, or any horse in their possession above the value of £5. But Popish Priests were in a still more dangerous condition, for by statute of 11 and 12 W. 3d. Popish Priests, or Bishops celebrating Mass, or exercising any part of their functions in England, except in the houses of Ambassadors, were liable to perpetual imprisonment. And by statute 27 Elizabeth, c. 2, Popish Priests found in England three day. without conforming and taking the oaths, were guilty of High Treason: and all persons harbouring them were guilty of felony without the benefit of Clergy. By statutes of 18 and 31 Geo. 3d, many of these severe cruel restrictions and penalties, were removed from the Roman Catholics.—(*Gifford's English Lawyer*, p. 137.

Such an act of loyalty in a body of subjects degraded for no other fault, but a conscientious adherence to their faith, was never surpassed, and perhaps will never again be equalled.\*

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY, THE HUMBLE  
PETITION OF US, THE INHABITANTS OF LANCASHIRE,  
WHOSE NAMES ARE HEREUNDER WRITTEN, IN THE  
BEHALF OF OURSELVES AND DIVERS OTHERS, BEING  
RECUSANTS,

*Humbly sheweth,*

That whereas we, and the rest of the said County, your Majesty's most loyal subjects, are disarmed, and not sufficiently provided for the defence of your Royal Person, and our families; our most humble supplication to your Majesty is, that we may be received into your gracious protection from violence, have our arms taken from us redelivered in this time of actual war, and by your Majesty's special directions, be enabled further to furnish our-

\* His Majesty had in the early part of the year 1642 solemnly declared by his proclamation, "that no papist recusant should serve in his army." . . *Micro-Chron.* anno. 1642: Had Charles been better advised, and suffered them to enter his army sooner, he might probably have prevented many of the evil consequences that ensued.

selves with competency of weapons, for the security of your Royal Person, (if we be thereunto required) our countries and families; who now are not only in danger of the common disturbance, but also menaced by unruly people to be robbed. And when by the Almighty's assistance your Majesty's kingdom shall be settled, in case we again be disarmed, that a full value in money in lieu thereof may be restored.

And we shall pray, &c.

WILLIAM GERRARD,	CHARLES TOWNLEY,
CECIL TRAFFORD, (*)	CHRIST. ANDERTON,
THOS. CLIFTON,	JOHN CLANSFIELD.

\* About ten years previous to this, (viz. 1632) sir Cecyl was a most vile puritan, and, being a justice of the peace, he was a great persecutor of the Catholics, levying (besides other severities used by him against them) 12d. per head for non-attendance at church each Lord's day. Francis Downes, of Wardley, esq. (afterwards allied to him by the marriage of John, his brother, to Penelope, daughter of sir Cecyl) having revolted from the reformed religion, sir Cecyl intended by arguments to have restored him to the church. In their disputes Downes brought such convincing proofs of the truth of his faith, that sir Cecyl forthwith abjured his religion and became a convert to the Catholic faith. [*Hollingsworth's Mancuniensis, M. S. Chetham's Library.*] Sir Cecyl's fourth son became seated at Croston in right of his wife, Ann, daughter and co-heir of Richard Ashton, of Croston, esq. from whom the present Thomas J. Trafford, of Trafford, Esq. is lineally descended.

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To this humble request his Majesty returned the following most gracious answer :

TO OUR TRUSTY AND WELL-BELOVED SIR WILLIAM GERARD, BARONET; SIR CECIL TRAFFORD, KNT. THOMAS CLIFTON, CHARLES TOWNLEY, CHRISTOPHER ANDERTON, AND JOHN CLANSFIELD, AND OTHERS OF OUR SUBJECTS, ESQUIRES, IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

*Charles Rex,*

Trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well. Whereas, by reason of the laws and statutes of our realm, by which all Recusants convicted are to be without arms, your arms have been taken from you; so that now in this time of imminent danger, wherein there are armies raised against our commands, and contrary to our proclamations, and are marching against us, and divers of our good subjects, for obeying our lawful commands, and opposing the rebellious proceeding of others ill-affected, are by a strong hand seized upon and imprisoned, their houses plundered, and their goods taken away; and the like is threatened to ourselves, who, as all other our subjects, ought to have our protection against all unlawful violence and force: and the laws made for disarming Recusants were made only for a pro-

vision to prevent danger in time of peace, and were not intended to bar you from a necessary use of arms in time of actual war, for your own safety, or for the defence of our Person, against all rebels and enemies, which by your duty and allegiance you are bound unto; which is not, nor even was meant to be discharged, or taken away by any act. And whereas, the arms which were taken from you, ought by law to have been kept and preserved, to have been made use of by you in such time of open war, or by such others as you should provide; yet under the specious pretence of disarming Recusants and persons ill-affected, your arms have been disposed, and dispersed into the hands of several persons ill-affected, and for the most part fomenters and excitors of these commotions now raised in this Kingdom.\* Our will and command therefore is, and we charge and require you upon your allegiance, and as you tender the safety of our person, and the peace and welfare of our Kingdom, that you with all possible speed provide sufficient arms for yourselves, your servants, and your tenants, which we authorize and require, during the time of open war raised

\* His Majesty here gives a complete denial to the false and scandalous assertions, that the Catholics were the instigators of the rebellion.



against us ; to keep and use for the defence of us, and of yourselves, and of your country, against all forces and arms raised, or to be raised against us, or against our consent, or contrary to our proclamations, by colour of any order, or ordinance, or authority whatsoever: And we shall (according as we are bound to all subjects) use our utmost powers for the protection of you and yours, against all injuries and violence. And whensoever these arms, which you shall provide (after it shall please God to put an end to these dangers and distractions) shall be taken away from your custody, by reason of our laws now in force, we do hereby assure you, we will allow you for the same, so much as you shall have dispensed in provision thereof.

Given under our signet at our Court at Chester, September 27th, in the Eighteenth year of our Reign,† (1642.)

No sooner was this permission granted, than the Catholics of Lancashire not only armed themselves for their own defence ; but also raised a considerable body of troops to assist the royal cause. This enthusiasm was not confined to Lancashire alone, but the whole nobility of that communion in the

† Rushworth's Coll. vol. p. 2.

kingdom, as the Winchesters, the Worcesters, the Dūnbars, the Cārnarvons, the Poweses, the Arūh-dels, the Fauconbergs, the Mōlineuxes, the Cōttingtons, the Monteagles, the Langdales, &c. with the Catholic gentry and yeomanry, were seen flocking around the royal standard, impatient to wash away with their blood the stain of disloyalty, which they had been unjustly constrained to suffer during the greater part of a century. Such Catholics as were possessed of castles and strong holds, turned them into royal fortresses; and the rest of them raised what money their estates could afford in support of the king and constitution.\* We may judge of their exertions in this cause, by their sufferings in it. Among the number of Catholics, who held commissions under his Majesty, and served in the royal army, and were slain at divers places, their ranks and names have been handed down to us, and we can enumerate, one earl,† one viscount,‡ twelve knights, fifteen colonels, seventeen lieutenant colonels, thirteen serjeant majors, sixty-seven captains, eighteen inferior officers, and forty-five gentlemen volunteers, besides a numerous rank and

\* Milner's Letters, p. 294.

† Cārnarvan, slain at the first battle of Newbury.

‡ Dunbar, slain at Scarbro', and two of his sons wounded,

file,\* making a total of 189, that have been collected; but it is computed, that upwards of 500 Catholic noblemen and gentlemen lost their lives in the royal cause. In Manchester, and its vicinity, three shed their blood, viz. Col. Cuthbert Clifton, Captain Anthony Hammerton, and Lewis Blount, Esq.

Finally, their pecuniary sufferings bore a still greater proportion to those of other loyalists. Above one half of the lands, confiscated by the rebels, was Catholic property. And amongst the remarkable instructions given to the sequestrators, consisting of thirteen articles, that of number six ought to be carefully remembered viz. “ *You are to seize two parts of the estates, both real and personal, of all papists, (as they are called) and the whole estates of all other sorts of delinquents mentioned in the said ordinance, whether they be papists or others; and you are to understand by two parts of papist’s estates, two of their whole lands, and two of their goods into three to be divided.*”

Armed with these powers, the sequestrators set out towards their respective divisions, and fell to seize, sell, or let, the estates of papists, wherever

\* Challoner’s Memoirs, vol. 2. p. 176; where all their names may be seen.

they could come at them. In the south and midland counties they made quick dispatch; bringing under sequestration, either as delinquents or convict Recusants, the whole body of the Catholics, without exception. But as the progress of the Parliament's victories was not so quick in the north and west, so neither could their committees execute their powers with the same unlimited and uncontrolled tyranny, as they did in those counties, which had been more early reduced.\*

Of the sufferings of the Catholics in general, and of the miserable state, to which they were reduced by these sequestrators, a short but faithful account may be seen, given by an eye-witness, viz. Mr. Austin, under the name of William Birchley, in his *Christian Moderator*, part 1. page 9, &c.

However the Catholics were not the only sufferers under these sequestrators; for I have collected the names of twelve gentlemen, who were sequestered, and compounded for their estates in Manchester and the neighbourhood, to the amount of £6045 9s. 6d. viz.

Byrom John, of Salford . . .	£201	16	6
Byrom Edward, of Salford . . .	2	6	8
Bowker Adam, of Salford. . .	16	13	0
Bowker Peter, of Manchester. . .	12	0	0

\* Knaresborough's M. S. Coll. from Challoner's Mem.

Mosley sir Edward, of Houghsland £4874 0 0

Mosley Nicholas, of Ancoats 170 0 0

Mosley Francis, and Nicholas his  
son, of Collyhurst\* . . . . 200 0 0

\* That the reader may form some idea of the vengeance with which the Parliament pursued their victims, it will be sufficient for him to read the following order, transcribed from the Journals of the House of Commons, (page 72) against these two Gentlemen.

Die Veneris 5<sup>o</sup>. May, 1643.

Whereas, Francis Mosley, of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, and Nicholas Mosley, his son, are now in actual rebellion against the King and Parliament; the Lords and Commons do hereby order and declare, that Mr. Thomas Stones, Mr. Thomas Browne, Mr. William Barton, Mr. Thomas Markland, and James Wainwright, or any three of them (formerly appointed by Warrant from the Committee of Safety of the Kingdom, to receive such monies, as by the Warrant are assigned for the relief of the county of Lancaster,) shall have full power and authority, by searching and examining the books of such persons, as are known to have dealt for them, the said Francis and Nicholas Mosley, or by any other good ways and means, to find out, seize, and take into their possession, all the monies, goods, debts, bills, bonds, or any other specialities for money, they can find in or about the city of London, belonging to them the said Francis and Nicholas Mosley: And all their creditors, factors, or other persons, who have in their hands any part of the estates of the said Francis and Nicholas Mosley, are hereby commanded and required to deliver them into the hands of them, the said Thomas Stones, Thomas Browne, William Barton, Thomas Markland, and James Wainwright, or any three of them; who are to receive

**Pendleton Henry, of Manchester** £80 0 0

**Potter Alexander, of Manchester** 4 5 0

**Prestwich Sir Thomas, and Thos.**

**his son, of Hulme** . . . . . 380 0 0

**Stanley Ferdinando, of Broughton** 150 0 0

**Rogerton John, of Manchester** . 4 8 4

The total amount of sequestrations through the whole kingdom was £1305299 4s. 0d. And in Lancashire alone 145 gentlemen compounded for their property to the amount of £28109. 11s. 4d. no small sum in those days! To such unmerciful severities did these unfeeling sequestrators pursue and hunt down their prey in those evil days, that regardless of charity or even common humanity,

them, according to their full value, in part of satisfaction of the said Warrant; and to dispose thereof for the service of the said county of Lancaster, according to the same Warrant. And all persons are hereby fully discharged of all such monies, goods, bills, bonds, or other specialities, belonging to the said Francis and Nicholas Mosley, which they shall so deliver to the parties, for the use abovesaid. Who are hereby required to make duplicates of rolls of all such goods, money, and other things which they shall take or receive, by virtue of this ordinance; that so, if there happen to be any overplus, above what is due upon the same Warrant, it may be disposed of, as they shall appoint. And whatsoever any person shall do in pursuance of the ordinance, they shall be saved harmless, by the authority of both Houses of Parliament.

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they tripartited even the day-labourer's goods, and very household stuff, and have taken away two cows, where three was the whole stock."†

To this deplorable condition were the royalists of England reduced by these extreme and fatal penalties, merely for their loyalty in the quarrel of King Charles the 1st, which afflictions they bore with becoming resignation, patiently awaiting the time, when the clouds of injustice should be dissipated, and the nation again return to a milder discipline.

† Austin's Chris. Mod.

## INTRODUCTION

TO

### ROSWORM'S COMPLAINT.



It may not be deemed improper to offer a few remarks on introducing the complaint of Rosworm once more to the public eye. The rumour of approaching dissensions in England attracted many veteran soldiers from unproductive, and perilous campaigns in Germany, the Low Countries, and Ireland. Amongst these vendible professors of the military art came the said John Rosworm, "a known soldier," as he modestly insinuates, "in forrain parts," and according to a letter from Manchester printed in the *Jehovah Jireh* "an able German Engineer, to whose skill, industry, faithfulness, and valor, under God they owed much of their preservation." This man had all the virtues and vices of the class to which he belonged. Attached to the



Presbyterians probably because they first engaged his services, Massey himself could not more sternly have refused all offers to prove unfaithful than our Engineer, even when oppressed by the greatest necessity. The whimsical ideas of fidelity entertained by these tramontane Condottieri are already familiar to the reader in the opinions of Captain Dugald Dalgetty. Rosworm, in common with that redoubted companion of Gustavus possessed no mean idea of the importance of his own actions. The County of Lancaster won from Lord Strange, towns and castles taken, the unconscious Parliament saved, and all by a Lieutenant Colonel in Holland's regiment!

*Te copias, te consilium, et tuos  
Præbente Divos.\**

Such boasting was the prevalent humour of the profession. The cause of Rosworm's disappointment may easily be imagined. His unfortunate lot was cast in the midst of zealous sectaries, and having neither taken the covenant, nor interfered in spiritual concerns, he became the object of their suspicion and dislike, whence his being employed,

\* He raised them forces, gave them his advice, and interceded for them with heaven!

or laid aside, was regulated, rather by the movements of the neighbouring Royalists, than by the gratitude of those he had so essentially served.

It is not however with any intention of perpetuating the complaints of an adventurer that I again present this narrative to the public. Rosworm by unwittingly setting down much valuable historical information has rescued his vituperations from that oblivion into which two centuries might have gathered the efforts of a more eloquent pen and a mightier sword.

May his case, and the ingratitude of his pretended benefactors, be a warning voice to my deluded countrymen under similar circumstances; may his fate act as a mirror, wherein they may see, that, when evil and designing men have rashly and intemperately hurried their country into treason and rebellion against their King and constitution, and when once they have accomplished and fulfilled their wicked designs, they desert their unwary followers, and abandon them to misery and distress.

It is here given us to trace the misapplication of energies which in peaceable times, and under other auspices elevated the sequestered vill of Manchester to its present importance. Pass a few years onward and it is pleasing to behold, that the space occupied by the needy mercenary, and his ungrateful

employers is filled by a thriving, and industrious community. Presbyterianism left a portion of its spirit, not to evaporate in fanaticism, and austerity, but to enforce the observance of the proprieties and duties of life, whilst the excessive parsimony that withheld from the soldier his hire, was moderated into a prudent and useful frugality. These are the enduring benefits we have received from our ancestors, *Cujus possessio nec furto eripi, nec incendio absumi, nec aquarum voragine absorberi, vel vi morbi, vel ullâ exterâ violentiâ destrui potest.\**

\* The possession of which can neither be taken away by stealth, nor consumed by fire, nor be engulfed by the whirlpool of waters, nor destroyed by disease, or by any other outward violence.

**GOOD SERVICES**  
**HITHERTO ILL REWARDED;**  
**OR,**  
***An Historical Relation***  
**OF**  
**EIGHT YEARS' SERVICES**  
**FOR**  
**KING AND PARLIAMENT,**  
**DONE IN AND ABOUT MANCHESTER, AND THOSE PARTS.**

—  
*By Lieut.-Col. John Rosworm.*

*To the Honourable House of Commons, assembled  
in Parliament.*

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN:

THIS poor piece would gladly begge an houre from you, at your best leisure. In it you will see the multiplyed wrongs, and sad Extremities of a faithfull stranger. The honour of doing me justice is reserved for you. When you read this, think such a one your Petitioner, as abhors all faithlesse and indirect courses, and therefore must unavoidably perish without your sudden succour.

It is in you to prevent, what I cannot but fear; which done accordingly, the Earth shall not bear a more thankfull Remembrancer, than

Your most humble Servant,

JOHN ROSWORM.

*To the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Fairfax,  
General of all the Forces in England and Ireland,  
John Bradshaw, Lord President of England,  
Oliver Cromwell, Lieutenant-Generall of the  
Armies.*

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

I would it were not my unhappines to see the day, wherein I should trouble you with such a sad

story, as here I am bold humbly to present you. In it you will see the faithfulness of a servant, the Rewards of his service, the Extremities he is in, and his encouraged Hopes of finding relief from you.

His Petitions, I hope, will shortly find your eyes or ears, or both; Oh! let them not want your hearts, of which I cannot doubt, if your leisure will suffer you to peruse this naked Relation. I trouble you no more, but with this only addition, that I shall be ever a most thankfull Historian of the reparation you shall afford me, And be

Your most faithfull and

Humble Servant,

JOHN ROSWORM.

AN HISTORICALL RELATION OF LIEUTENANT-COLONELL  
ROSWORM'S SERVICES AND REWARDS, SINCE THE  
FIRST BEGINNING OF THESE WARRES.

Then certainly, if ever, may a man speak of his well done Services, when either a just Relation of them may be the remedy of his present miseries, or a feeble ease of his over-burdened heart: both these at this time have an influence upon me: glad would I be, if the former end might prove successful. And truly why should I not hope it? But if

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Equity and Reason hath left England, if I and mine must rot, starve, perish, famish, that have been a means to preserve others from such dreadful ends, when they, whom I served, both can, and should, and may, therein succour me. If it must be so, I shall yet have a little ease in letting the world know both what I have done, and how I have been dealt with; in either of which, if I blot one line with a falshood, I make no question, but some of my back-friends will labour to let as many see their teeth, as I desire may see the truth. Which as briefly and orderly as I can, I shall now begin.

Having at the beginning of the Irish insurrection upon just discontents forsaken that Kingdom, I came into England, and particularly to Manchester, where I fastned my stranger's home; I had not lived there three months, before the differences of their Kingdom were heightened into a Warre and all parts were full of confusion. The town of Manchester, amongst others, apprehending a manifest danger of ruine, from the Earl of Darby and his strength, who appeared for the King; having none that knew what belonged to Military affairs, either for offence or defence, and having observed, and heard of me, that I was bred up in Souldiery from my youth, well skilled in fortifications, nor con-

temptibly furnished with all other military abilities: propounded and concluded with me a Contract under hand and seal, for half a year, engaging me by the utmost of my advice and skill, to endeavour the security of the Town, and engaging themselves, in consideration of my service for that time, to pay me £30, we agreed accordingly. I must be bold to say, that my undertaking of this Service (though for a poor reward,) as it was not small in itself; so it proved in the consequents as considerable, both to the weakning of the King's party, and the strengthening of the Parliament's, as any action in that kinde, through the passages of that year; (let it be considered) foure for one in that Town, if not more, favoured my Lord of Darby, and had publicly vowed to cut my throat, if ever I attempted any works to keep him out. The other party, which favoured my undertakings, were full of fears and confusions, not knowing which way to turn themselves: The Town in all its entrances, open, and without any defence about it. A powerful Enemy continually expected to come upon them; which within three weeks of our contract fell out: surely these were circumstances, which might easily have made it lawful to fear, and in that fear to decline a service of this nature. But, being desirous to do the Town the best office, that either I could do, or they



would wish, I put my life in my hand, I overlooked all dangers and difficulties, and undertook this Charge: which how I have discharged, let the world judge. By the way observe, that the very next morning after my Contract, my Lord of Darby sent two Gentlemen to me, with £150 as a present from his Lordship, with an invitation to attend him at Latham. 'Twas easie to see, what the drift of this kindnesse was. But £30, if backed with my promise, contract, or engagement, I have ever learned to value above all offers; honesty being more worth than gold. Returning therefore my thanks for the Earl's noblenesse, and the money with my thanks, I dismissed these Gentlemen, and addressed myself to my trust. My first aime was to set up good Posts and chains, to keep out the Enemie's horse; which by the contrivance of a false alarm, and by the help of the Countrey's coming in, upon the ringing of the Bells backwards, devised purposely for this end, I safely performed, though many tongues had doomed me to death, if ever I attempted it. This was done on Wednesday, the 22d of September, 1642.

Having by this devise drawn some Armed men into the Town, I earnestly pressed, that they might be carefully provided for, heartened and encouraged; for I was confident, that within less than a

week, the Enemy would make a reall approach, and then these men would stead us, they took my advice; and my prediction fell out accordingly.

In that small time of preparation, which I had, I fortified and barricadoed up every street end with the addition of mud walls, which were unfinished, when the Earl came upon us; I advised how our men should be assigned through each part about the Town. But Salford-bridge, the only place of manifest danger, greatest action, and least defence, upon others' refusall, I undertook myself: though by my engagement I was not bound to fight at all; but to advise, and direct onely.

For this Service, September the 28th, I took with me 50 Muskettiers: we lay there till Munday without action. Munday September 27, I was necessitated, to send 20 of my Muskettiers to Captain Bradshaw at the Deansgate, which never returned: that afternoon, though thus weakened, I was numerously assaulted; but through the goodness of him, who saved us, my thirty Muskettiers (having no Breast-work but a Chain) gave them a sound repulse. The next day, September 28, the Enemy plaid at us with his great Pieces, which being a strange noise and terrour to my raw men, sixteen of them took their heels; the rest, some for fear of my drawn sword, others out of gallantry,

resolving rather to dye, then to forsake me, stuck close to me, and to the safety of their Town. I was now few in number, but found some pitie from some other gallant hearts, who voluntarily came into my assistance, making up my number twenty-eight. And this was my huge Army even then; when I had not onely many Enemies without, but dangerous temptations within to deal with. For the Enemy finding their assault not to take successe, nor their Cannons to terrifie us, as at the first; severall parleys, sore against my will, were sent into the Town: whereof I gave my Souldiers a little notice, with encouragements to stand out to the utmost.

Particularly, Wednesday, September 29, the Earl offered upon the delivery of some 100 Muskets to with draw his Forces, and march away. To back this offer, Collonel Holland, understanding my aversenesse, earnestly pressed me to condescend to the motion, using withall these three Reasons. First, said he, we have neither Powder nor Match. I confesse I had onely six pound of the one, and eighteen fathom of the other; but this was onely known to myself. Secondly, the Countrymen (said he, though falsly,) will stay no longer, their own houses and goods lying open, to the mercy of the Enemy. Thirdly, said he, the Enemy is in-

creased in strength. With these arguments did he not only urge, but almost command the embracing of the Earl's Proposals. I related these things to my Souldiers, who unanimously resolving never to yield to my Lord of Darby, so long as I would stand out, and they had an inch of Match, or a shot of Powder: my heart leaped at such courage, and thereupon I peremptorily refused any terms whatever.

Which so passionately moved Collonel Holland, that he left me in great anger and discontent. Immediately after this, Master Bourne, an aged and grave Minister, came down to the Bridge to me. I told him Colonell Holland's language, and the dangerous concernment it tended to, I advised him, that if he desired to prevent the mischief, which might ensue, he would immediately walk to the Deansgate; and from thence to the other Centuries, using his best encouragements to prop up their hearts, against any danger; and assuring them from me, that whereas the Enemy now, made no assaults, but where I was, I was confident, with the help of Almighty God, and my few men, to defend it against their whole Power; nor should they ever enter at my guard. The heartened old man quickly left me, and followed my advice, with such gravity and chearfulness, that I cannot but

ascribe much to it, as to the means of our preservation. Having thus prevailed for a refusall of all terms, sent in by the Enemy, our height of resolution to defend ourselves to the utmost was returned to the Earl; who finding by our actions, that we spake as we meant, within three days after, withdrew this siege, and gave us leve with about ten of my men in open view to fetch away a great number of good Arms from them.

Thus was Manchester freed from the danger of her first brunt; wherein how farre I was instrumentall, if impartiall men cannot see, I will appeal from them to my Enemies; if either can deny me an acknowledgement, I am content the world should be blind, and what I have done should be buried. But was the safitie of Manchester, the whole of Manchester's safitie. He that shall view in Prospective the state of things at that time in the Kingdom, must yet see more; my Lord of Essex had then at that instant no great Forces, and those very remote from those parts. And surely, if the actions of Manchester had not sufficiently ballanced the Earl of Darbie's Forces, or had that Town yielded either to his Assaults or Proposals, Lancashire, and all those associated Counties, had been at his service; and the whole Souldiery therein at his disposing; which with his own Souldiers would

have made up at least 9000 well armed fighting men, besides Horse. These, joined to his Majesty's Body, who onely wanted Infantry, would have made such an Army, as in human reason could not have found an opposition strong enough from all the Parliament's Forces, which at that time could be brought together. These concerns I onely touch at, because, though my heart would break, if I should not let the world knowe how I have served, and am served; yet I have no minde to draw my own picture. Onely one thing more let me adde, to do myself a little right, since none else hitherto have done. This Town was not only a foyl to an assaulting Enemy, but a strength, help, and Magazine to all the adjacent Counties, as they stood engaged for the Parliament's service. But enough of this.

The Earl of Darby having afforded me a vacancy by his departure, I thoroughly set myself to raise up my Works of Fortifications about the Town, during the residence of that half year, for which my contract was made, in which I did not onely prosecute that to my utmost, by my directions, but having declared my judgement, that unlesse we did something speedily against the Earl, he would get head again, and do us new mischief. We thereupon gathered our Forces together, went out, and

upon Decemb. 24, we shattered the Enemy at Chowbent, and the same night we took Leigh by assault, returning again within three days. I was now so observed for my faithfulness and success, that Januar. 2d. following I was unexpectedly honoured with a commission from my Lord Wharton, to be Lieutenant Coll: of a Foot Regiment, to Coll. Ashton, with which, Feb. 6, I was commanded by Serjeant-Major-General Seaton, to join with Coll. Holland's Regiment, and to attempt Preston, which was accordingly taken by assault, Feb. 8. And afterwards at Serjeant-Major-General Seaton's, and the Deputy Lieutenant's request, was fortified by my directions.

I kept this command of Lieut. Coll: during the residue of my half year's service, contracted for with the Town of Manchester, which being now expired, they then observed, what they cannot without shame remember now; that I was both trustie, and successfull. They were loathe to forgo such a servant, and therefore propounded new terms to me, offering me an annuity of £60. per annum, to be paid £15. quarterly, during the lives both of myself and wife, which should survive the longest, if I would by my advice prosecute the finishing of their Fortifications, and the ordering of all Military affairs, conducing to the safetie of

the Town, and upon all occasions be ready to give directions accordingly. At the same time, also, they, with the Deputy-Lieutenants desired me to accept of a Foot Company in the Garrison of Manchester, engaging themselves to maintain it, as long as it was a Garrison, and to pay me 40<sup>th</sup>. per week in part of my Captain's pay, and the rest was to go upon the publick Faith. I was pressed to accept this so importunately on their part, and by one reason so strongly within myself, which was, that by embracing the first of these Proposals, I should not leave a desolate Widow without a poor subsistence, in case a warlike end should befall myself, that I layed down my Lieutenant-Collonel's Commission, and closed with their contract; and is this circumstance nothing to chain these men to their promises? Those hearts certainly are deeply rooted in the Earth, which Reason, Equity, Conscience, nay and shame, cannot pull out with such ropes.

My engagement being past, I returned to my charge, enlarged my Fortifications, left nothing unprepared, as time would permit, which might not make an Enemy a strong work to attempt me. Whilst I was prosecuting these things, I was solicited, April 1st, 1643, by the Deputy-Lieutenants, to attend and assist our Forces, against Wigan; for



indeed the Souldiers declared themselves discontented, if I went not along with them. I went accordingly, being loath that these should want any of my services, who had afforded me so much room in their hearts, nor were we without a happy success in our attempt; for by a gallant assault, chiefly of Collonel Ashton's men, we took that strong Town in less than an hour. The Town being taken to my best remembrance, we sent 600 Muskettiers of Collonel Ashton's men to secure Bolton, not far from us. Whilst the Town was taken, the Enemy having for a refuge observed and fitted the Church and Steeple adjoining for their advantage, fled thither as many as could, and killed from thence, I dare say more men, after the taking of the town, than we had lost in the whole assault besides.

Whilst we struggled with this difficulty, an alarm was sent us from the Enemy, I went speedily with some few Horse to view the state they stood in; I found them only three slender troops of Horse; who observing us to present a resolute face towards them, they instantly tried their heels, and gave us language enough in their disorder, to tell us we need not trouble ourselves with such Enemies. I returned with what haste I could, with the truth in my mouth, but found Collonel Holland in such a shaking agony of fear, that he was ready to

march away with our Forces, consisting of 2000  
feet, most part good Muskettiers, the rest club and  
bill-men, and to my best remembrance about 200  
or 300 horse, besides eight Pieces of Ordnance,  
and no want of either Ammunition or provisions.  
And surely with this Force I durst have seen the  
face of the greatest Enemies we had about us, though  
conjoynd at the time. Having this confidence I  
desired him earnestly not to leave that Garrison so  
fearfully, that was won so gallantly; or, if he  
would not stay himself, to leave me 600 Muskit-  
tiers, and one troop of Horse, and clear me of the  
Prisoners, of which we had already good store, and  
I would entertain any attempt of the Enemy, and  
prosecute the rest of the service touching the Town,  
which was yet unfinished. His Answer was, stay,  
that stay would, he nor any of his men, either  
would or should stay. I could almost have torn  
my flesh at this answer; yet suppressing my pas-  
sion, with deep intreaties, and repeated persuasions,  
he was at length wrought so farre, as to promise a  
stay till I had forced those, who had possessed the  
advantage of the Church steeple, wholly to surren-  
der; I haveing assured him, that I would either do  
it, or otherwise in one houre blowe them up. He  
gave me his hand to assure me of his stay. I there-  
upon first summoned them, but in vain. I prepar-

ed for execution, the event whereof startling the Enemy, they all surrendered, being eighty-six in number. But whilst I was receiving the Arms, and making preparation for their Convoy, Collonel Holland (for, alas, who can settle a trembling heart?) marched away with all the Forces, left me with one Company onely, (these, also, fearing their inability to deal with so many prisoners, forsaking me) engaged amongst 400 prisoners, many good Armes, two great pieces of Ordnance, in the midst of a Town, where generally all the Townspeople were great Malignants. Being thus wholly forsaken by all, I was forced first to run to find my Horse, and then to flie for my life, which in such a danger was most strangely saved.

All that adhered to the Parliament through the whole Kingdom, and knew the circumstances of this assault, rejoyced at the taking and supposed keeping of Wigan, as a considerable service. It being thought an impregnable piece, the Enemie's pride, and our fear; onely Collonel Holland seemed to be troubled, that I perished not in the action; and therefore finding, that I survived his treacherie in having me in the midst of so many enraged Enemies, as I before shewed; did the best he could to destroy me and my family, a worse way. For presently upon the taking of

that Town, as a noble gratuity for that service, and yet saving my own life, the 40<sup>th</sup>. per week, as part of my Captain's pay (the onely main pillar of my family expences,) was by Collonel Holland's command, subscribing two hands more for the the countenancing of his unworthinesse, taken away from me, upon this pretence, that I had not taken the Covenant; and was suspended for above a year; during all which time notwithstanding, I was still kept in my employment.

I cannot forget that about that time, and many times since, I received severall letters of acknowledgement from some eminent persons in the Kingdom, but I could feed neither my dog, nor my cat with them, much lesse my horses, which I have kept always at my own expences in the service, though afterwards upon second thoughts some of my charges were allowed me: but as for my family, who could not live upon the bare return of my expences, I was compelled to trie an unhappy experiment, whether I could feed them with *I thank you*. But enough of this.

Wigan service done, and undone, for which I was payed accordingly, I came to my charge at Manchester, whence not long after I was desired to ride to Liverpool, to direct the Fortifications there; I stayed there five days without any reward.

March 11th. after my return thence, I, besides many more out of Manchester and the County, was summoned up by Warrant, to attend the Committee of Examinations upon the 16th of April next after, and to give in our Informations touching Collonel Holland's actions where all this, and divers things more, were justified to his face, as his perfidious dealings at Wigan, his actions touching Mr. Peter Heywood; and his eagerness in urging me to deliver up Manchester, when I kept Salford bridge, at the first. But his great friends in the House prevailed for his escape, accounting it perhaps a sufficient punishment, that he was so publicly shamed.

Whereas, if I had been guilty of the like, I am sure the Law of Arms would have condemned and executed me for bad service, that am sought to be furnished for good.

About July 4th, the Earl of Newcastle with no small Force made angry approach towards Lancashire; our men were sent out to oppose his passage, nor was I thought fit to be present at this action. The issue was, our men were soundly beaten at Wickerhill, in Yorkshire, and pursued into Lancashire by the Enemy, who quickly also possessed himself of Halifax about 16 miles distant from us. When I had received this sad intelligence, I informed myself of the nature of the passes, by which

the Enemy most easily could come in upon us; and finding them capable of a sudden Fortification, by the consent of the Deputy Lieutenants, I quickly helped nature with art, strengthening Blackstone edge, and Blakegate, and manning them with Souldiers, to prevent the Earl's dangerouse approach; by which means being diverted, like an angry storm with a gust, he went to the siege of Hull. How considerable this diversion of so powerful an enemy was, let reason judge; for certainly, whereas he never reached his end at Hull, if he had gotten in amongst us, we were not onely in a manifest danger of being overrun by an enraged Enemy, but all parts within an ordinary distance, would have felt the smarting bitterness of his heavy hands.

1643, Jan. 19th following, I received order from Sir Thomas Fairfax to accompany his forces to the relieving of Nantwich, at that time closely besieged by the Enemy. Where how I discharged the trust reposed in me, I leave to the testimony of his Excellency, whose name I shall allways remember with honour.

Nantwich relieved, I repaired to my home, where I have with my utmost skill nourished a company of vipers, who in recompence would eat my bowels.

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From thence I was once more, Aug. 16, 1644; commanded by Sir John Meldrum to attend him to the siege of Liverpool, which continued full ten weeks: I there served as Master of the Ordnance; gave directions for divers Works, in a word, I failed not in any thing, which could be expected from me during the siege; it was surrendered Novemb. 4th. For all which, and many other services, I am to this day unrewarded.

And now I come to my last actions, not a little conducing to the great shame and dishonour of Manchester, and the farther evidences of my own honesty.

After the siege of Liverpool, the Parliament with a great Force layed siege to York; to raise this siege, Prince Rupert made an hastie and a furious march, with a very great Army; so that from the beginning of these Wars, there were not two such numerous Armies, nor so fiercely resolved each against other, as met at length upon the occasion of that siege; Prince Rupert, well noting, that there were two ways to raise this siege, which was the whole of his work and designe; the one by policy, the other by force, left neither unattempted. His political method lay no where so strongly for his end, as to corrupt me for the betraying of Man-

Chester, wherein had he sped, York siege would have raised of itself.

To effect this, Prince Rupert joyned my Lord Byron to himself in the transactions; and having the advantage of one Mr. Peter Heywood,\* by his means laboured with me for betraying of the Town.

This Mr. Peter Heywood, who at this time sits at his ease, and enjoys his own, whilst I for want of it endure extreem miserie; was a Captain in Lancashire for the Parliamēt, was often in our private consultations; and by holding intelligence with the Enemy, did us much mischief. He went oft to Chester, Oxford, and other Garrisons of the Enemy, discovering our secret results.

This being at length found out, and proved

\* The father of this Peter Heywood (whb bore the same christian name) was a justice of the peace; and according to a monumental inscription in St. Ann's, Aldersgate, he is stated to have been the person who apprehended Guy Faux, with his dark lanthorn, in the vaults under the Parliament House, Nov. 5th, 1605. From the same authority we learn, that for his zealous prosecution of the Papists, he was stabbed in Westminster Hall by one John James, a Dominican friar, in 1640. His grandson, Peter, was afterwards one of the councillors of Jamaica, and married Grace, daughter of sir John Muddesford, knt. and bart.



against him, he was secured by the Committee, and yet without the consent of the rest of the Committee, contrary to an Ordinance touching such cases, released by Coll. Holland; two of his friends also being bound for his appearance, which never was questioned; though he presently upon his enlargement went to the Enemy, and was afterwards thought the onely fit instrument to work me to this treacherie. His method was, first to take advantage of the injurious and most unthankfull unworthinesse, which the Town had used towards me, stirring those passions in me, which he knew were deeply provoked. This done, he offered in the behalf of Prince Rupert, that I should have great preferments under Prince Rupert; besides the perpetuall obligations of affection and honour from many most noble friends, which I should look upon as purchased by the desert of such seasonable and usefull service.

I was not so little a fool, though I never meant to be a knave, but I gave the propounder audience, give some encouragement to the businesse, so much as to fish out, which way the Enemy would lay the stratagem, and to secure myself from suspicion on their part, appointed them a time of receiving their hopes. And I must needs say, I could with more ease have sold them, man, woman, and child, with

all they had into their Enemies' hands, than at any time I could have preserved them; but, alas, I should then have been a Manchester man, for never let an unthankfull man, and a promise breaker, have another name.

When I had found out the bottom of the plot, and searched out the method of their intention, I immediately sent for six of the chief men of the Town, layed open the whole design, told them how to prevent the danger, laboured night and day to get our Cannons to the Work, repaired our Mud-walls, as well as time would suffer. In a word, left nothing uncared for, which was necessary to entertain an assault. But the Enemy, having got some intelligence of our actions by our treacherous friends, or home-bred Enemies, when he had marched within one or two miles of Manchester at his appointed time, having notice of an hot entertainment, instead of Manchester steared his course another way.

I must not forget here a new piece of wrong Manchester and the whole Kingdom received from Coll. Holland at this time, that very morning, which I had discovered the plot, Coll: Holland had summoned the Souldiers of Salford Hundred, consisting of almost 4000 Muskettiers, to my best remembrance. He was desired by us at Manches-

ter, that these Souldiers might quarter in, or near the Town, that they might assist us in time of danger: but how were we answered? he disbanded these men, went away, left us to ourselves, there being no established Souldiers in the Town at that time, but that one single Company under my command, and some few of Major Radcliff's Company, which, with all that could be perswaded to look to the security of their lives and livelihoods, made not up so many Muskettiers, as to double our guards, much lesse reasonably to enable us against a resolute Enemie's attempt. Nor was our distresse without many aggravating circumstances; for, besides the decay of our Mud-walls, and the unmounting of our Cannons, we knew not who to trust. The infinite toyl, pains, and indefatigable industry, night and day, which I used at this time, all that had eyes in that Town saw, and all that have tongues can witnesse: insomuch that the ablest, and richest of those, who had engaged themselves for my Annuity, being overcome with the consideration of my pains, and the shining evidences of my fidelity, gave me deep protestations and promises, that if ever the hand of Providence should lead them to peace again, and that Trading might once again flourish, they would, out of their own private purses, enlarge my reward; particularly four of

the six, to whom I first discovered the Enemie's stratagem, specified their summes. Mr. Johnson promised £10. Mr. Gaskell £20. Mr. Hunt £30. Mr. Hartley £40. yearly, as long as I lived. But, alas, when our distresse was over, which lasted a week, this smoke vanished. The issue was this, that whereas Coll: Holland (who ever hath been, as you may see all along) the bountifull rewarder, encourager, and furthurer of my good services had suspended my 40s. per week, part of my Captain's pay, for a whole year, they drew a most important Petition to the House, for the Arrears of my pay, and continuance of it, for the time to come; recommending me also for some noble gratuity agreeable to my deserts and quality, This Petition begot me an Order for my discontinued pay, and a recommendation from the House to Manchester, for my Annuity. It was dated Sep. 4, 1644.\*

\* The following order copied from the Journals of the House of Commons, p. 617, may serve to prove the truth of this part of Rosworm's statement; and from whence we may form a correct idea of the accuracy of the whole narrative. Although the annuity in the order, does not agree with the preceding sums, (which appears to have been promised in the heat of the moment) yet it is more clearly explained in the succeeding pages.

Die Mercurii Septembris 4<sup>o</sup>, 1644.

ORDERED, That Lieutenant-Colonel Rosworm shall have his

This being granted me, through much importunity, and great expences, on my part, my 40s. per week was payed me till Octob. 9th, 1647.

I shall onely adde one more Evidence of my faithfulness to this ungratefull Town. The Summer after Prince Rupert's diversion, it pleased God to lay his heavy hand of plague upon us, which, ranging according to his directions, left no part unvisited; becoming indeed such a sad object, that our very miseries were as great a guard to us against our Enemies, as the cries of them were strong for a publick commiseration from our friends. The pestilence in a little time grew so hot, that it not onely occasioned most of the richest to depart with their whole families, but moved also the Warden, and the other Ministers, to desire me with my

Pay as Lieutenant-Colonel, so long as he did the Duty of that Place in the Regiment of Colonel Asheton: And the forty shillings per Week formerly paid to him as Captain, and all the arrears of it, be forthwith paid out of the public monies to be raised in the County of Lancaster; and so to continue during such time as he shall be in the public service in that County: And, for the rest of his Pay as Captain, the said Lieutenant-Colonel Rosworm shall have the Public Faith. And it is further recommended unto the Town of Manchester, not to fail in the Paying of him the Sixty Pounds per annum, according to their former Covenants with him.

family to withdraw-not far from the Town, that, if occasion, were, I might from thence readily serve the danger and extremitie, which might befall it from the Enemie, I think few men would have blamed me, if having stayed thus long, I had left the Town upon such importunitie. But conceiving myself as strongly tyed to look to the goods and estates of those, that were gone, as one of the Ministers thought himself charged to look to the souls of those there remaining; I waved all fear, and resolved personally to serve my trust, leaving my death to him, that once gave, and often before had spared my life. And truly my resolution herein, I must be bold to say, was not a little courtesie to this Town, as both I foresaw how things would, and afterwards did come to passe; for Major Ret-cliff and his Company having withdrawn and quartered themselves without the works for fear of the plague, myself having onely twelve Muskettiers, whose hearts stood fixed to run my hazard, the poore, many of whom were at the pest house without, and the rest within, entered into a dangerous combination, with about a dozen of the middle sort of men, that were within, to take advantage of our weaknesse and nakednesse, and to seize upon the whole riches of the Town, which at that time was very great. In the prosecution of this

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villany, they wanted neither secrecie, unanimity, nor craft, for till their design was ripe, I had no knowledge of it; which argues also their unanimity; as for their craft, a man would have thought some minor Jesuite had been of their counsell. They had prepared, forsooth, a kind of Declaration; zeal for the safety of the Town, solicitousnesse to see it so naked and unfit to oppose an Enemy, were the embroidered coat of this pretty brat; and to make up all, they added a resolution to stick to King and Parliament, and to use the whole fruits of their attempts to serve the publick: and I, forsooth, had the honour to be nominated their chief commander. I had at this time taken physick, but my Serjeant Mr. Burom, the elder, having discovered the plot to some in the Town, who quickly came to advise with me. We with some few others, which we sent for, agreed upon this as the suddenest remedy, that the twelve chief conspirators should be severally sent for into one room, at one time, and afterwards severally examined, which accordingly was done; their examinations remaining still upon fyle in Manchester. Whilst these things were doing, I gave orders for my twelve Muskettiers privately to attend me, with whose assistance having secured these heads, the conspiracie vanished into smoke, which otherwise would have set all on fire.

The plague being ceased, and the chief inhabitants of the Town returned, a man would have thought that this last Evidence of my faithfulness, alone, should have wrought these men, if not to thankfulness, yet to honesty: But who can white a black man, or make rope of sand? Their brows were brasse to all entreaties, their affections flints to all reason, their hearts rocks to all pitie, and their consciences adamants to all obligations, even still my Annuity was kept from me; which aggravating my many debts and wants to the height of extremitie, in hope of relief I repaired to London, where prevailing not for a redresse, in three quarters of a year's attendance with my boy and two horses, at very great expences; at length (it being true, that *Magister artis ingeniiq, largitor venter,\**) it came into my head to print an angry Paper; the copie whereof I have here inserted.

A SAD COMPLAINT OF LIEUTENANT-COLLONEL JOHN  
ROSWORM, AGAINST SEVERALL OF THE INHABITANTS  
OF MANCHESTER.

I post and send abroad this to the deserved shame of the Townsmen of Manchester, whose names are underwritten, whose heathenish, most unworthy

\* The belly is the master of arts, and the bestower of wit.



and persidious dealings, if I could, I would publish to the end of the world. My complaint is this, let all readers judge. When the town of Manchester, at the beginning of these Wars, was in a most desperate danger and extremitie by reason of the Enemie, I (who have been a known Souldier in Forrain parts,) was then looked upon as a serviceable man for the safety and preservation of that Town, and was accordingly compounded with, by those underwritten in the town's behalf to fortifie the said Town, and, in a word, to manage all Military affairs, tending to their safety and preservation. In consideration of which, they obliged themselves under hand and seal, to pay me quarterly, every quarter of a year, £15 during the lives of myself or wife, which should live longest; adding withall such Solemn Protestations and Vowed Engagements of farther thankfulnessse, that, considering their profession of holinesse above other men, it might easily have wrought an hope in a credulous man, that they would be more than honest. But all that glistered was not gold: for see the issue. I discharged my engagements to the utmost of a man, yea to the utmost of their hopes. Their Town was secured, themselves preserved, through providence, my great pains, industry, and uncorrupted Faithfulnessse. In the prosecution of my trust, I incur-

red frequent and most manifest dangers of my life, from which my escape hath been a matter both of their wonder, and their joy; of all which I have their own acknowledgments to produce, and testifications of their thankfulnesse so deep, as if they had looked upon me, as the onely earthly Landlord of their lives. All this notwithstanding, these men (if they deserve so good a name,) conceiving themselves to have no other use of men, have for these twelve months with-held from me my dearly earned stipend, broken their covenants, slighted their Engagements, opposed all fair motions, and frequent entreaties of my own, refused all Ministerial exhortations, earnestly and often pressing their dutie herein upon them; dispised all requests and letters of public and private eminent persons, not onely minding them of, but reproving them for their backwardnesse, I may say persidiousnesse; so that, if I were not beholding to a more bountifull Providence, then what runs in their honesty, I and mine might rot, perish, starve, or famish, whom by their obligations, as well as the common obligations of Equity, they are bound to relieve; what ingratitude this is, let the world judge; yea judge yourselves, ye worst of men; did I hazard life, limbs, and all that was dear to me, and do the richest of you grudge me a few shillings by the

year, to buy me and mine food: is this your equitie? have you engaged yourselves solemnly for my satisfaction, and now do you deny it me to my destruction. Is this your honesty? Would you indeed murder me, my wife and children after the highest manner of cruelty, that under God have been a means of preserving you alive? What! is no other death fit for me but famishing? have you no easier way to shew your unthankfulness then that? are you so hard hearted to a stranger, so persidious to your obligations, so unthankfull for curtesies, such obstinate enemies of reason and equitie? do you professe yourselves ashamed to see one, and can you read this without blushing; ye Adamants, can ye indeed be so flintie? Well, be so for ever, finde out the utmost bounds of ingratitude, be matchlesse in your treacherie; set the Devill himself a Copie, that you may be the most infamous men of your generation, and when you have done, triumph in this; that your consciences are made of such steel, as can be touched with nothing. As for me, the utmost of your cruelty shall, I hope, reach no farther then to cause me to be angry with myself, that I have ever hazarded my blood for such despicable earth worms. But withall let me tell you, I hope I shall finde out a way to make you pay me against your wills, nor shall your dishonestie for ever help you.

To conclude, (for I know though your brows be Basilico-proof, yet you could be content, I should end this language;) if ever you stand in need of the faithfulness of a man again, may you meet with none that will trust you, better then you deserve, for since you have, in my case, manifested your best profession to be but hellish dissimulations, what man, after me, will ever credit you? Who will ever free me from this reproach, of being the last credulous fool, that ever you shall abuse? If any thing here seems either to yourselves or others too sharp, I shall shortly clear your eye-sight, and present you, with a larger Lookingglass, wherein you shall see (if you will not shut your eyes,) Circumstances enough, which will more fully discover your brutishnesse, not onely to yourselves, but to all, that will take the pains to observe your most detestable unworthinesse; so farewell.

The names of those unworthy Covenant-breakers in Manchester, who have sealed and subscribed the Covenant in behalf of themselves and the whole Town.

Ric: Heyrick,  
Will: Radcliffe,  
Rich: Howarth,  
Rowland Hunt,  
William Dean,  
John Hartley,  
John Gaskell,

Tho: Lancashire,  
Richard Lomax,  
Thomas Mynshull,  
Edward Johnson,  
Lawrence Owen,  
Robert Lever,  
Nich: Hawet,

Edw: Holbrook,  
Roger Worthington,  
Richard Meare,  
Henry Bradshawe,

Thomas Ellingworth,  
Mich: Buxton,  
Rap: Wallin,  
Hugh H. Williams,

*Lond: May 9, 1648.*

The shame of this Paper, which the bitterness of my condition, and the unworthinesse of their dealing, forced me to Print, together with the concurrence of the Scottish advance, from which they feared danger, occasioned them to recall me from London, and to pay me my then arrears. But this storm being over, they again most shamelessly slighted their engagements; and therefore being utterly worn out with the vexation of their usage, and finding nothing to work, I sent them a Letter, dated Octob. 11, 1648, desiring their leave, that I might seek employment where I could, and look after a means of subsistence elsewhere, since their hearts were such, that they could suffer me, my wife, children, and family, to perish before their eyes, who for six or seven years had been an evident instrument of keeping them, their wives and children from the same end. For this purpose I sent them inclosed the form of a testimony to be subscribed; the result of all was, I neither could get pay, nor testimoniall: what is this, but as much as to say in other words, for all the good services you have done us, we will keep you here, and famish you?

I have now done my story, whats behind must be for Application. And first I shall begin with those undertakers of Manchester, who first engaged me; and first, and last, and all along, have almost eaqualled my services with wrongs.

### MY MASTERS,

For it hath been my unhappinesse to have been your servant, give me your leave a little. (If you have any roome in your memories for any thing but debts) you may well remember the confusions, fears, and extremities, you were in, when you first desired my services: what a strong Enemy you expected from without, how divided within, how weakly provided, and unable against either; inso-much that my engagement in your service, was as much the wonder of your Enemies; as the preservation of yourselves, so far as may be ascribed to a means. Having undertaken your service, you may remember, if you please, the dangers I exposed myself to, beyond my covenant, the offers which I refused from many, the difficulties I ran through, the vigilancy and care which I used, the faithfulness which I discharged, my sticking to your estates during the plague, when most of you (which was strange) forsook them yourselves; and

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the successe of all through my whole service. You may remember too, what methinks you have forgotten, that I had your hands and seals for a poor annuity, besides the voluntary additionall promises from some of you of £10. from another £20. from another £30. from another £40. yearly, as long as I lived, flowing from the sense of my care, and faithfulnessse, once visible in Manchester, but now removed beyond the Indies. But, I pray you, my masters, suffer your servant to reason with you. Was I once thought worthy of so much, and now have I not deserved my poore wages of you, that have kept for some of you such vast estates? do you still grudge me the yearly preportion of a few shillings, that have kept for you so many pounds, so many thousands? Have I exposed myself for your safety, to the danger of sword and plague, and will nothing content your boundlesse ingratitude, unlesse withall you throw me and my whole family into the jaws of famine? You have been thought men of conscience, why could no ministeriall exhortations prevail with you, often propounded, and urged upon you for that purpose? You have professed yourselves the Parliament's devoted servants, why was their recommendation slighted? You would not be thought uncivell, why were my Lord General's Letters so little regarded? You

would not be reported as shamelesse, why did shame force you to a piece of your duty, upon the sight of my printed paper inserted before ? whereas now again like the dogge, you are turned to your vomit. You complain of others for want of justice, why have you used so little to me ? You pretend a great deal of care of your credit, why have you suffered your words, hands and seals to be wounded ? Religion bids you to be courteous to strangers, why have you dealt thus unmercifully, yea most cruelly with me ? who though a stranger, have been more than a brother, and have then stuck to you, when for fear, you have fled from yourselves. Equity, reason, yea self-love, requires you to be thankfull for courtesies ; having forgotten all these obligations, I favour you too much, if I say you are out of your wits, for then you will be somewhat excused ; whereas, if you will be thought otherwise, you cannot. When your fears had rendered you heartlesse, my undertaking your service, and lively encouragements revived you ; when you have been compassed with your enemies, my service hath been your freedom ; when you have slept, I have been watching for you ; when you have stretched yourselves upon your soft beds, I have made the cold earth my lodgings ; when instead of cloaths to keep me warm, I have been wet round with the



rains; I did not envy these things to you, I did not refuse these things for you. I might say much more, if I were not resolved to have this advantage of you to be able justly to say, I might have said more if I pleased. But how have you dealt with me? When in my distresses I have made my moan to you for my dearly earned stipend, your ears were deaf, your hearts pitillesse, my wife and children could not find the way to your bosomes, though you and yours have not wanted large roome in mine? What was your meanings, were you ambitious to be the most notable men in all the earth for cruell unthankfulnesse? if so, I will do my best to procure you the honour; as far as my few languages will reach, you shall not fail; or was it because in your actions to me you would shew yourselves honest men? You have done it indeed, ask your consciences else, and they will tell you so; because none else will. Or was it your purpose to force me to flie the Kingdom, and to leave my wife and children to your Parishes charitie, when both the husband of that wife, and the father of those children could finde so little of your justice, equitie, or honestie. Perhaps 'twas this: but yet methinks having some subtiltie of apprehension, you might have thought, that he that was no traitor to your bowels, would not be a traitor to his own.

Sure then your aime was I should be driven to rob by the highway, and violently to take from others what should be the support of my familie. And yet methinks you could not think this, seeing you well knew, that I have ever been carefull of my honestie even to you, who have failed to me ; how then should I be injurious to such, whom perhaps I have never seen, when I have not wronged you, that have so sore provoked me ? You know I have ever laboured to keep others from plundering, how then should I practice it myself ? But perhaps you are still of that judgement, however you use me, that certainly, some miracles would be manifested from heaven before a man, that had served you so faithfully, should want, though you should give me nothing : if these were your thoughts, then by your confession, I must look for miracles, before you will be honest ; and if that follow after, 'twill be the greatest miracle of all : if none of these are right guesses, for my part I am at a losse, help me out, and then you shall hear more ; till then I leave you.

Having done with these, I shall keep that order in my debates, which I observe in my wrongs. Manchester was first, and the Parliament in its late state was next ; to them must I be bold to say a little.

TO THE HONORABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS, SITTING  
TILL THE YEAR 1648, AND PARTICULAR TO THE  
MEMBERS SITTING FOR LANCASHIRE.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN,

You need not be put in minde, I hope, that  
whatsoever I did for Manchester, reacht at length to  
yourselves, and from you to the whole Kingdom;  
It hath been easie for many impartiall eyes to see,  
that my actions at Manchester in the beginning  
were the verie hinges, whereupon the War turned;  
for had not my Lord of Darbie's Forces been  
boldly opposed, and at length utterly crushed, by  
the activity, boldnesse, and successe of those  
Forces, with which I allwayes personally served  
(where mentioning myself alone, I desire not to  
rob any other of their due honour) half an eye may  
see in humane reason, what condition you had  
been brought to, successe at first being that, which  
both animated and encreased your friends.

I must not here forget any point of right or  
honour, which was shew'd me, for I suppose that  
public testimony, which was given of my stirring  
vigilancy, faithfulness, and successe begot me un-  
expectedly my Lord Wharton's Commission to be  
Lieutenant Collonel to Coll: Ashton, which, and

how I used, till I layed it down, I have touched before; and can confidently leave to any that knew my actions. But I beseech you forgive me, if as modestly as freedome forced from misery, will give me leave; I speak something also of yours.

Having laied down my Commission of Lieutenant Collonel; I degraded myself into a Captain, that I might be the fitter to discharge my trust to Manchester, and to attend your service there, where it was of most concernment. I was content to take 40s. per week in part of my Captain's pay. And the rest upon the Public faith; and this with the poore addition of my Manchester annuitie, was the whole livelihood of my wife, children, and family. But as Manchester suspended the one, so yourselves at length suspended the other; upon which, being deprived of all means of subsistence, I addressed two Petitions to your House, all which were worn out in some of your pockets, and myself at length, after twelve months expectation, dismissed with this, that my Petition was but a private businesse, from a private man, and the Parliament would not look upon it; but yet I must acknowledge, I was allowed from you a little money, not so much as would bear my charges of attendance.

Forgive me now a little freedome; when I did you service, I was a publick man, was I altered

because I came in my great miseries to petition for my wages? especially having forborn you so long, then I ranne in debt for the bread, which I did eat, as still I do? Or if I were not that Rosworm, which served you, as actively, faithfully, and successefully as any, must I because private, perish for want of justice, when I hope you will grant, I should not famish for want of pitie? Private men, that were to pay money, I hope were looked after, why not private men, that were to receive. If the receiving were a public advantage, surely paying was a publick duty. But did no private men find a redresse from you for almost twelve months? Nay did no private men in this time receive extraordinarie gratuities, which I also was one recommended for, though as yet I want my pay? you can tell. Had you not one half houre's time to consider my deep extremities, as if I, and they, were well known, to move a stone, what? not so little time for me? that have spent dayes, nights, months, years, so many, so much time to support that power and wealth, by which you were to relieve me? I have observed a Motto about your English coynes, "*Justitia firmat thronum*," the want of this is the mother of all the changes and revolutions in the world; the corruption of this, if not reasonably looked into, will ruine all. Were

they not your solemn professions at your first sitting, that having felt the weight of oppression and injustice from others, the bent of your councils and actions should be, that justice might be impartially done to all? Did you not with professions to this purpose, fish for hearts and catch thousands? and could you so easily neglect the doing of justice to one of your faithfull servants, especially when it would have gotten you the additionall honour of another virtue, viz: shewing of pitie? But you were busied about the publick. Be it so; yet me thinks, you could not but see, what I heard a mean man once observe; that, "the adminstration of private justice is a public good:" how else could that be true, that "Justitia firmat thronum?" But I was a stranger. I pray you how many of your own Nation betrayed you, whilst I stood firm? How many of them would have betrayed you, when they could not; whereas I would not; when I could, though I had strong temptations? How few did you better service, moving in no higher a sphear? How, many forsook you upon easie trials, when I stuck to you against all? If it be a granted principle, that I must be slighted, because a stranger; yet sure I should have been regarded, because a good servant: what could you imagine I should do? I had spent, sold, and

pawned, all that I had, except what I onely mean to part with, when I part with life. I was and am still, as deeply plunged into debt, as my friends would give me leave. I had a wife and children, which though you would not look after, yet I could not so easily forget: how did you think I should subsist? How should these be fed? I had no skill to trade, no art to begge, no heart to rob; did you ayme that my miserable necessities should force me to that, which my soul loaths? Did I hate in my heart, forbear in my practice, restrain in my Souldiers, all kinde of plundering, even then, when we had taken Towns, and might have done it under the colour of war; all which tended not a little to your honour, that you had such a servant? And could that be thought good dealing, to necessitate me, for want of my deserved pay, to raise provision for my deare wife and children, by my violence to others? But you know not my wants, One of your number, who, it is to be supposed knew your mind, said I was a private man, and you would not look upon my Petition, as much as to say, you would not know them. Besides, when one had done good service, to a state long since, you knew, that a voluntary inquirie was made; what honour had been done to the man for all this? And indeed what honour? yea, what justice? yea, what injus-

tice, rather? For alas, how can I say lesse, under the sense of such a languishing condition; the very grief whereof, being beyond the anguish of all my wounds, hath lately thrown me into an extreme sicknesse, and that to the edge of my grave: I shall much wonder, if now at length, upon the view of your failings, I should not see my redresse, and know my helpers, which accordingly succeeding, I shall not fail to give the world as thankfull a testimony, as in this I have given true.

JOHN ROSWORM.

FINIS.

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J. LEIGH, PRINTER.













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